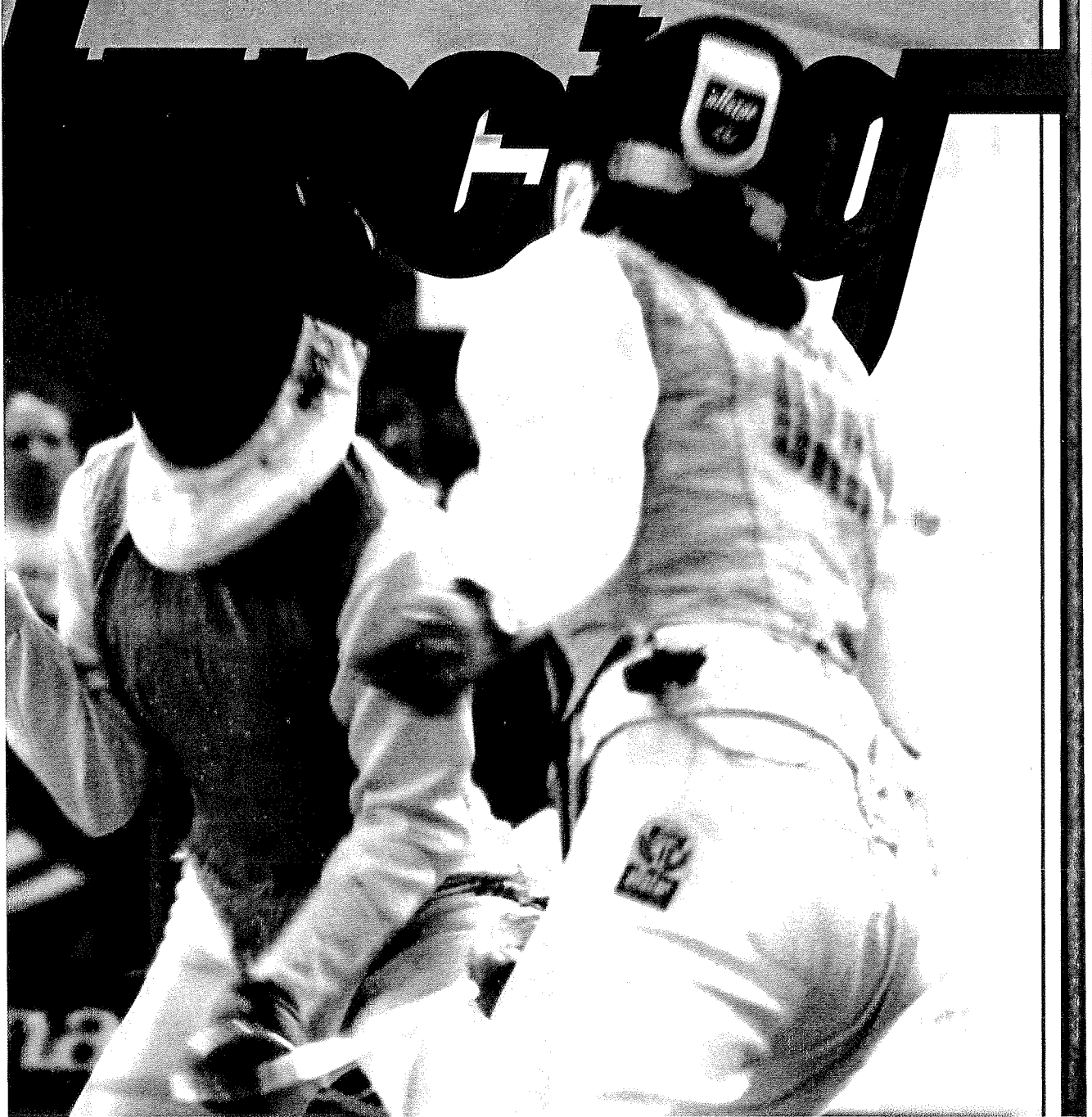
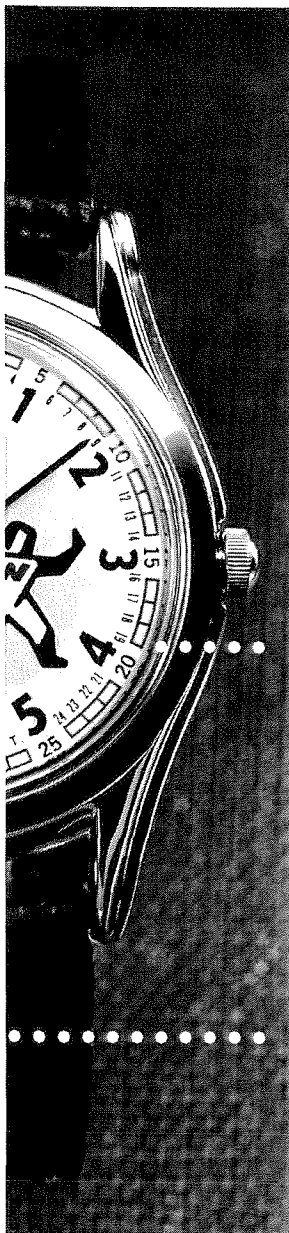


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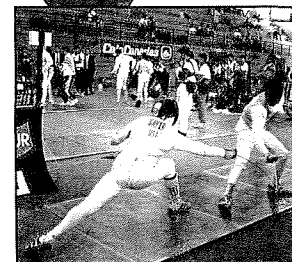
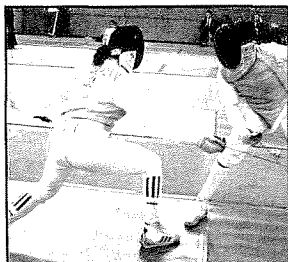
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# American Fencing

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# Obstacles to Excellence

We must rise above distrust and convert our willingness to confront obstacles into constructive pursuits!

BY DONALD W. ALPERSTEIN, USFA PRESIDENT

As I write these words on a sparkling Sunday afternoon in November, I have cause to reflect on the experiences of the weekend about to end. I participated in two functions over the last couple of days that give me plenty of fodder for thought.

The first was an annual banquet conducted by a rather large charitable foundation. The "Awards for Excellence" recognize outstanding non-for-profit corporations in eleven fields as diverse as health care, the arts, the environment, self-sufficiency, and others. The ceremony included a short video tape explaining the efforts and operations of the three finalists in each category. While the variety of projects they pursued was striking, I found more impressive the things they shared.

All of the feted organizations relied heavily on volunteers who offered their services in devoted dedication to a common cause or project. Equally remarkable was the optimistic, constructive and cooperative spirit with which the association's people, both volunteers and professional staff, pursued their mission. It occurred to me that these are hallmarks of effective organizations and I began to wonder, how fencing might stack up against these acknowledged success stories.

I'll gladly match the zeal and energy of our volunteers against anyone's. The dedication of fencers to their sport makes the USFA function. This is not to say that we have all the help we need. Far from it. We will always find a place for willing talent to join our cadre of intelligent, committed, energetic and interesting workers!

## How Do We Match Up?

I'm not so sanguine about that other apparent indicator of organizational effectiveness: the optimistic, constructive and cooperative attitude so evident in those "excellent" organizations. That we fall somewhat short here should come as no great revelation. Let's face it, we fencers are by nature and training a cantankerous, combative and individualistic lot. We also tend to be suspicious of others, a natural trait of people dedicated to and immersed in an activity that rewards deception and surprise and that teaches us to expect the same from our opponents. It matters not that those



Donald Alperstein presents Jessie Burke with one of her two gold medals at the Rochester NAC

opponents are often our comrades in arms and sometimes our mentors and heroes.

This penchant for feistiness and guarded wariness is, I believe, the greatest obstacle to our achieving "excellence." What works on the strip does not succeed in meetings and personal encounters. Skepticism is a healthy crucible in which to test ideas, but pessimism and

mistrust are prejudices that suffocate objectivity, productivity and collaboration. Sometimes we have trouble recognizing where the game ends and where the work of fencing begins.

Our great challenge is not to wallow in the inclination to doubt reflexively the intentions of others, but to rise above distrust and to convert our willingness to confront obstacles into constructive pursuits. When we do so, we are about the best there is.

Look what we can do when we cooperate. Clubs thrive

when their members and the families see and pursue a common goal of bettering the salle, and Divisions flourish in those instances when rival clubs, normally "enemies" on the strip, join to make fencing a more enjoyable activity for all. From such environments champions emerge. On a national scale, witness the success of the Coaches College or the heartwarming response to George Masin's "Drive for 2000."

And that brings me to the other event of the weekend, a two-day meeting of a USFA committee whose members were variously reputed to be angry, naive, cranky, selfish or arrogant. In reality, they were concerned, frustrated, guarded and isolated from important information. Once the participants succeeded in lowering their formidable defenses and relaxing their considerable doubts about each other's motivations and character, amazing progress resulted.

These and other examples prove we are capable of concerted effort and that when we join forces we can do mighty things. Unfortunately, cooperation is not, by and large, our natural inclination or

“To the extent our parents managed to inculcate any propensity for trust or altruism, fencing buried those values because they became liabilities on the strip.”

native talent. To the extent our parents managed to inculcate any propensity for trust or altruism, fencing buried those values because they became liabilities on the strip.

How, then, do we transcend our own natures to become a cohesive, dynamic organization? I don't have all the answers, but through experience I'm learning some of them. People react to us in the way we expect them to. A snarly greeting will engender a responsive growl; a smile begets a smile. With our attitude we create our environment.

### Assumptions Can Undermine Success

Similarly, our expectations can give us a bum steer. For example, one who finds a referee's call perplexing or a Division officer's proposal dubious will do better not automatically to assume the worst. The referee probably isn't trying to cheat; he may have made an error. It happens. The officer may not be trying to benefit her club to the disadvantage of another; she may be unaware of some fact that, objectively explained, will give her a new perspective on the issue. Almost every time we stumble in our efforts to work together for a common goal, it's that nasty assumption that trips us. I don't advocate trading healthy skepticism for credulity. But it wouldn't hurt to substitute a little objectivity for suspicion.

The USFA draws from a most impressive pool of talent. With that resource, a more positive outlook and some attention to overcoming reflexive doubts, we can become "excellent." So next time you suspect that a fellow fencer has ulterior motives or is of questionable character, ask a friendly question and fairly weigh the response. You may find that you and that other chap have far more in common than you might at first think. Unless the guy is wearing a mask and carrying a weapon, in which event beware that feint!

Front cover.



Back cover.



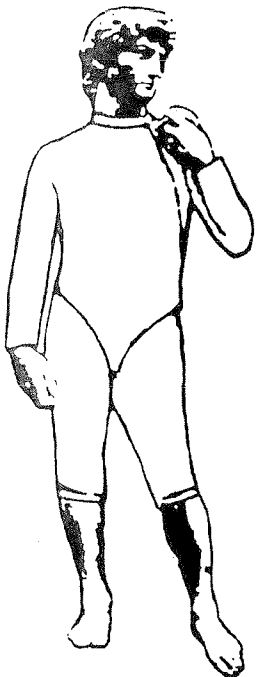
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## Opportunity for All!

This letter is in response to Peter Burchard's article, "Stop the Bravinization of Fencing." While I certainly appreciate the author's concerns, there are many things in this article that could be misconstrued as well as a number of things that are presented as facts when they are not. I also believe that nothing is perfect and that an article that only looks at the negative aspects of a program that is, overall, a positive program does a disservice to the membership. As one of the people who created the Summer Nationals, I knew there would be problems, and there were. I also knew there would be many, many happy fencers, and there were. I do believe that quite a bit of history has been forgotten, history that would allow one to better understand why the USFA is currently doing what it does.

A number of years ago the USFA really had achieved the "segregation of elite fencers from the rank and file" that Peter Burchard writes about. Our teams were primarily selected from "Squad Trials." These trials were only for the top 24 fencers in each weapon; it was very difficult to break into this group. These incestuous competitions kept the rank and file of our association out of contact with the top fencers to a far greater degree than anything that is taking place today. (It is important to remember that it was a very rare instance in those days for a fencer from our country to go to any international competitions.) The chance of anyone even seeing our Olympians was generally only a once-a-year possibility. Today, almost all of our top fencers are at every North American Cup and everyone has that chance to break into the points many times more often than in the past.

The old system of just one "National Championships" left much to be desired. The "good old days" would have the National Championships with, for example, 240 men's foilists so that the winner was not necessarily the best fencer, but the fencer who could survive going from 8:30 a.m. until 2:30 a.m. the next day.

This situation was greatly alleviated with the advent of the Division II. And, most importantly, the so-called "rank and file" of the USFA loved it. Division III makes it even better for everyone. The recreational fencer and our future Olympians now have even more opportunity to compete with those of similar ability and not go to the National Championships to fence

only four or five bouts, and then go home.

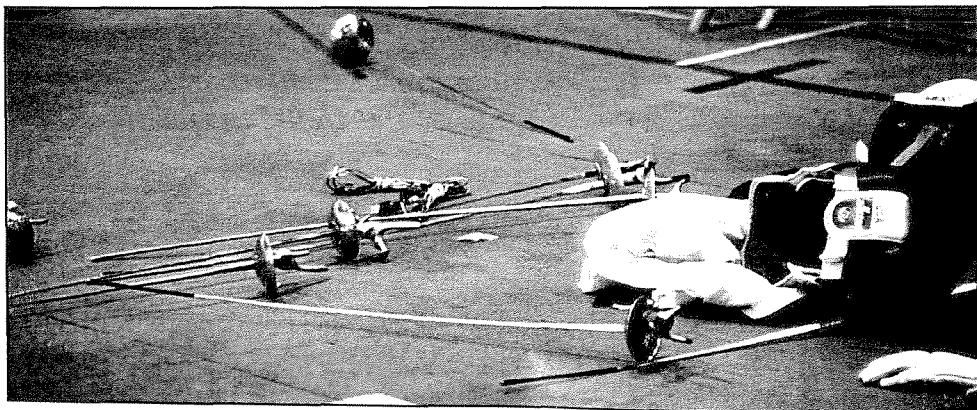
The statement that Peter Westbrook would "never be able to make it" with the current programs is, I sincerely believe, a great insult to Peter and also untrue. Peter came through the system of National Tournaments and World Cups. Peter also made the 1996 Olympic Team, his sixth, with the current selection system. Peter made his first Olympic Team with the incestuous Squad Trails. I am convinced that Peter would have made it regardless of whatever system would have been in use. Now the Peter Westbrook Foundation is showing us all that even those without lots of money can rise to the top.

Peter Burchard states that "local tournaments are almost never attended by the elite fencer." Sadly, this is true. This has, however, been true for far, far longer than the separation of our National Championships. The fact is that the elite fencer does not enter local tournaments because she or he is already competing in so many other competitions. There really is a limit as to how much competition an athlete should have. It is also true that the beginner learns little, if

“A number of years ago ... incestuous competitions kept the rank and file of our association out of contact with the top fencers”

anything, by fencing an elite fencer. The developing fencer is really better off facing others of similar and slightly better ability in order to improve. Just as an elite fencer needs competition against other elite fencers to improve, the rank and file is well served by the many levels of competitions offered by the USFA. The National Tournaments are held all over our very large country. (Many of our problems would seem insignificant if the USA were the size of France or Cuba.) If one wants to see and fence the best, one has only to enter the Open North American Cups. The article also states that the Summer Nationals is "a way to appease the not-so-serious fencer with a mock-up of the Nationals, but no matter how you cut it, it is not the real thing." This really smacks of elitism. The Summer Nationals is not the Division I Nationals. It is, however, a very "real thing." The USFA is really doing something for the rank and file. Yes, many of the fencers at the Summer Nationals are recreational

fencers, but what is wrong with that? The USFA is not just for the Olympians. It should not be forgotten that it is a safe bet that all of us that were there saw future Olympians and future elite fencers. Let us also not forget that elite fencers have to start as





rank and file fencers. And did the fencers at the Summer Nationals enjoy them? You bet they did!

As for our being "professional," we certainly are not in it for the money. Yes, referees are paid forty dollars per diem. If a referee did not love the sport, she or he would definitely not be there. Forty dollars is but a token of appreciation. Many others and I remember going to the Nationals and Squad Trials to referee where we were given nothing! We paid our own transportation, housing, and food. The money was not the issue then, and it certainly should not be an issue today. As for where the money from membership and entry fees goes, it certainly does not all go to support the elite fencers. (Membership fees don't even cover the cost of administration and this magazine.) Where do you think all those machines and all those strips come from? They are paid for out of entry fees. Where does the hotel and transportation for the armorers, bout committee, referees, and other necessary officials come from? It too comes from entry fees. While the National Tournaments do make some money, there is really not as much money as Mr. Burchard alludes to. As for the cost of entry, I suggest that people look at what it costs to enter a National Competition in other sports; our entry fees are really on the low side compared to most sports.

I completely agree with Mr. Burchard when he states that "We will only achieve genuine viability when we have such a huge membership that we generate a sustained increase of participation in our sport every year with a low attrition rate." And the statistics have proven that this is being greatly assisted by the expansion of National Tournaments for all levels of fencers. The USFA had no real national competitive experiences available for the rank and file in which they could succeed until Division II. Now that we have Division III and Veterans and all of the Youth categories, the USFA is giving the rank and file something they want. People who get what they want from an organization will renew their membership and advise others to join.

Mr. Burchard's statements about establishing outreach programs and making our NAC tournaments a real show are excellent. I hope our Board of Directors will take them to heart at their next meeting.

The comments about "petulant babies" and the "need to restore decorum and sportsmanship" are very correct. This can be accomplished to a very large degree by correct refereeing. At the first NAC that was used to select our 1996 Olympic Team, a fencer directed a most obscene comment at a referee. The referee's response was, unfortunately, an obscene comment directed at the fencer rather than the Black Card that should have been shown. As soon as the bout was over I spoke with the referee and advised him with words to the effect that it was his responsibility to "restore decorum and sportsmanship" to our sport. I also spoke to the fencer who told me: "I never would have said that to you." When I asked the fencer why

he would not have, his response made it all very clear. He said: "Because you would have given me a Black Card."

Yes, nothing is perfect. Yes, things could be improved. Let me suggest to all of the membership that they come up with recommendations to make all aspects of our sport better. Remember, we are the USFA. "They" did not create the situations Mr. Burchard does not like; the Board of Directors, elected by the rest of us, did it. I believe the USFA is doing much more for the membership today than it ever has in the more than forty years that I have been a member.

GEORGE KOLOMBATOVICH  
USFA TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE



## First Trip to Nationals

My 14-year-old son and I are newcomers to the USFA. We have been members for about one year. I fenced 30 years ago under the tutelage of Maestro Csiszar at Penn and at that time was a member of the AFLA. After a 30 year lapse I returned to the strip with my custom made French grip epees bolstered by my son as he began the basics of foil fencing.

I had several strokes of good fortune as I reentered the fencing world. The first was to see Maestro Csiszar one more time before he died. The second was to enlist the aid of old friend and Penn Coach David Micahnik so that he could make my

antique weapons both functional and legal. Finally I had the pleasure of seeing my son, Sam, both enjoy his fencing experience and show much more promise as a fencer than I ever had.

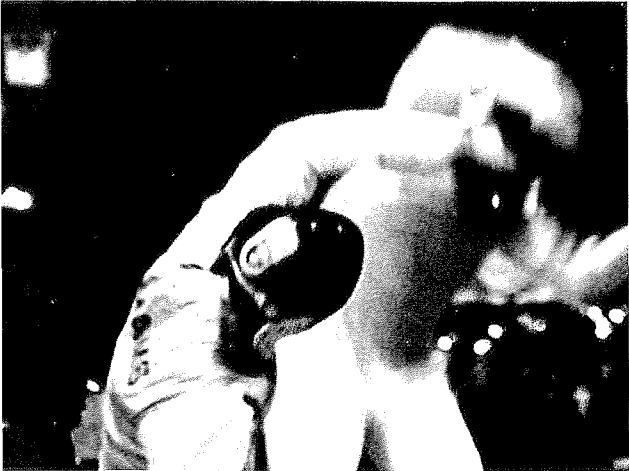
Soon Sam had won several novice tournaments and I had begun to keep pace with Philadelphia's Veteran Fencers. In view of our progress, I was quite thrilled to hear (early last year) that the Nationals would be right in my own backyard in Pennsylvania. Sam and I planned to go in order to experience the diversity of a national level tournament. We were disappointed when the venue changed but soon became exhilarated at the opportunity to go to California. It's an eerie feeling not having the least of expectations about a National Tournament. Our only frame of reference was the information we gleaned at our local fencing club and the USFA magazine. Would we be competitive, would our equipment pass the tests, would our weapons be mangled in the cargo hold of the plane? There was one way to find out; we were off to Santa Clara!

The cross country trip had fencing stamped on it from the start. We met fencers on the plane, in the airport, at the hotel and the local restaurants. Needless to say Santa Clara was breathtaking and the weather absolutely perfect. The traveling public in the area must have wondered what all these people were doing invading the Silicon Valley.

The first view of the fencing hall was both exciting and intimidating. Our experience of a large meet had been a sectional with 10 strips some of which were grounded. When Sam and I entered this

*Continued on following page*

hall there were 40 copper strips seemingly as far as the eye could see. In addition there wasn't a single Armorer surrounded by 10 fencers with weapons in need, there were six armorers working in both an accommodating and orderly fashion. One soon learned that these people were the lifeblood of the tournament. Sam and I had our weapons



tested, our masks approved, our body cords tagged, and our heads spinning.

I had my competition on the first day. As a veteran fencer I felt I could hold my own with other 50-plus fencers from anywhere in the

country. My initial pool consisted of six fencers. One A, two C, and one D and yours truly a well earned U. In addition I had butterflies in my stomach and the ever growing question in my mind's eye of, "What am I doing here?" Soon I found the directors to be helpful and pleasant, my fellow fencers to be congenial and interesting and the matches challenging. I lost to the A and the C fencers but I hustled and scrapped and won my share. When the dust cleared I had finished eighth and even received a medal. The pleasures of the sport of competition and camaraderie were all magnified at the National Tournament. Whatever uneasiness was created by the swell of over a thousand competitors was offset by officials and other competitors that made the competition more than just an athletic event.

It was interesting to observe the evolution of the bout committee's performance. The first day of the competition we started two hours after the posted starting time. By the third day the competitions were starting very close to scheduled starting times. The bout committee personnel were approachable and willing to take time to assist fencers while being bombarded by directors wanting their assignments, and computer staff waving seeding charts in their faces.

The magnitude of the Nationals also brought fencing equipment vendors from all corners of the country. The hard to find equipment was readily accessible and the prices suddenly became very attractive when eight vendors were placed in one room. I was flabbergasted when I walked up to one table and easily purchased a size 14 fencing shoe for my son after having tried to get these shoes for months without much luck.

What about the downside of the Santa Clara Nationals? There really was none other than the fact that there were over one thousand fencers and everyone could not be a winner. Many young fencers (my son included) learned that this is a very big country. Just because you're a top fencer in your local division doesn't necessarily lead to a top notch finish at the National level. What it does result in, however, is an invaluable competitive experience. The USFA should be proud of its first Summer Mega Nationals.

MARC A. ROSENBERG, VMD  
CHERRY HILL, NJ

## Wired or Wireless

With the encouragement of the FIE, several manufacturers are working on wireless scoring systems for fencing. These use battery-powered radio transmitters on the fencers to relay touch indications to receivers on the scoring machine. They eliminate unsightly trailing wires, reels and floor cables and the delays associated with their malfunctions and "hooking up." (See Ted Li's "Don't Give Up Your Reels Yet," *AMERICAN FENCING Summer 97*)

Proponents believe that wireless scoring will make fencing easier to "stage" and thus more attractive to spectators and television. I believe the proponents are only partly correct, and that there is a further major step that will help fencing attract audiences.

If you think about sports that attract audiences, you realize that one key feature is that a score is immediately apparent to the spectator. The ball goes over the goal line or the upright bar in football, or into the net in basketball, soccer and hockey, or into the cup in golf, or inside or outside the line in tennis. Scoring in fencing is much faster than in these sports, but the score indicators are also remote from the action on the strip, making it doubly hard to grasp. Spectator attention is split from the action (which is complex in itself) to remote scoring lights to learn the score. Can we not make it easier for the spectator, and put the action and the scoring together like the "popular" sports do?

Of course the answer is obvious; put the scoring indicators on the fencer. This is not a new idea; guards that light up, lights on the mask and even lames that glow have been talked about for years. The time for talk is over; if we can develop a wireless system to detect touches, we can put the indicators where we want them, and the best place is on the fencers not at a scoring table remote from the action. This solution eliminates the wires, reels, and floor cables as the "wireless" system does, and disposes of radio transmission problems and expense. It also eliminates the scoring machine and towers, and if we are clever, the metallic strip. Without these elements the presentation of fencing will become easier and a lot less expensive as well as easier to understand.

The USOC Science and Technology Department has been requested to open a project on a fencer-based scoring system. It is not a simple task. If readers have ideas or resources to help develop a touch detection system without a common ground, please contact the author via the USFA office.

WILLIAM GOERING  
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO

## The Rules Outlaw Coach Questions

This letter is in response to the article by Paul Soter regarding Women's Epee. While I strongly support his request that all individuals be refereed the correct way regardless of sex, I would like to point out one problem with a request of his. Mr. Soter requests that coaches be allowed to question a referee about a call. The problem with that request is that it is against the rules for anyone other than the fencer to speak with the referee during an individual competition and, during a team competition, only the fencer and the Team Captain may speak with the referee. I am sure Mr. Soter would not want anyone breaking any rules.

GEORGE KOLOMBATOVICH  
FENCING OFFICIALS COMMISSION



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# A Bright Future for Veteran Fencing

Introducing: a quarterly column targeting those for whom fencing is truly a "good time for a lifetime."

BY ROBERT BLOCK

For every fencer who is gray, graying or fortunate enough, considering the alternative, to expect to become gray some day, who refuses even to consider laying down the fencing blade, we offer this column. It will appear in AMERICAN FENCING with information about the people, places and events associated with veteran fencing. One of the important reasons for including such a column in AMERICAN FENCING on a regular basis is that the readership consists of fencers from all age-groups, which, I think, should make the magazine an ideal forum for promoting the advantages of moving up through all of the competitive age-groups, thus making fencing a true sport for a lifetime. From my own experience I know that masters in other sports, such as swimming and distance running, usually relish the idea of facing the new challenge of competing at the next age level. Why should we as fencers be any different?

One way we are different is that it seems to be a trait unique to fencers to refer to ourselves as "veteran" athletes when every other sport that I'm aware of, or have been involved with, calls this level of competition a "masters" event. Before I rediscovered my old fencing jacket (the one that surprisingly seemed to have shrunk with age and still had buttons holding it together), I thought of myself as a masters athlete in the other sports that I competed in.

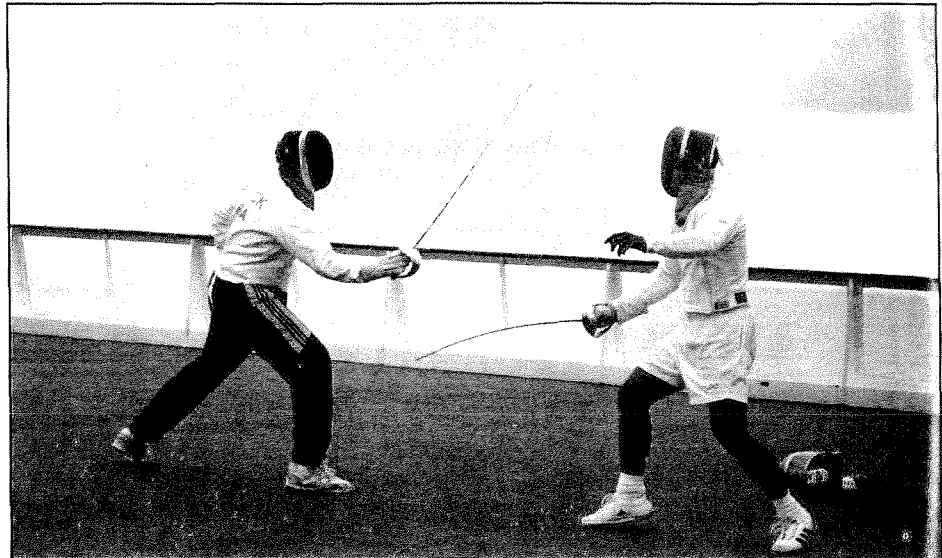
Apparently, a lot of other folks don't share the identity crisis that I have because an estimated 25,000 athletes from over 100 countries are expected to participate in the NIKE World Masters Games scheduled to be held in Portland, Oregon in mid-August, 1998. I'll be there too, competing in the fencing portion of this two-week long sports extravaganza along with 400 or so other fencers, but I doubt that any participants other than fencers will identify themselves as veteran competitors. I suppose at this point it probably comes down to a split-personality condition that I'll just have to learn to fence with.

Whatever we opt to call ourselves, 1998 is shaping up as a banner year for veteran fencing. In addition to the established invitationals, there are five major events developing that will include some firsts that should make 1998 a very special year. These begin May 1-3 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida at NAC-H where veteran competition will be held for the first time in conjunction with a circuit event. The

competition will include Mens Foil, Sabre and Epee and Womens Sabre and Epee. This is a very important new step for the veterans movement and all 40+ fencers are strongly encouraged to participate and support it in any way possible.

The 1998 Summer Nationals is next on the agenda in Austin, Texas from July 4-12. The Santa Clara tournament was a break through for veterans in many ways, including a record number of entries, the awarding of rankings, and the overall quality of the fencing displayed, especially in the final rounds. The Austin tournament should be a tremendous opportunity to keep the force of this momentum going. It will have events in all weapons for both men and women and will provide an opportunity for fencers to qualify for a spot on the U.S. Veterans Team that is expected to compete in an international team match between the U.S. and Germany later in the summer.

During the following month from August 16-20, as I mentioned earlier, fencing competition will be held in all weapons for both men and women at the World Masters Games sponsored by Nike in Portland, Oregon. Competition will be split into three categories for all weapons: the 40+, 50+ and 60+ age-groups. This is the first time that the World Masters Games will take place in the United States. Held quadrennially like the Olympic Games, the World Masters



*Author Bob Block (left) takes a shipboard lesson from veteran Peter Westbrook, somewhere off the coast of Nova Scotia.*

Games has previously been hosted by Australia, Denmark and Canada. Although it is an open competition, space is limited and interested fencers should contact the organizers about registration as soon as possible. For information about the Games and how to register for it call 1-800-984-2637, or visit its web site at [www.worldmasters.org](http://www.worldmasters.org). As this publication goes to press, attempts are being made to organize an international team match between the U.S. and Germany that would also be held in Portland immediately after the World Masters Games. It will be, I believe, the fourth such tournament involving the U.S. Veterans Fencing Team: it was preceded in other years by the initial international team tournament held in England and then by reciprocal tournaments in Florida and Germany. This competition is normally held in all weapons for both

men and women and each country is allowed to enter up to two squads in each weapon. It certainly appears that all of these activities in Portland will be a great opportunity to get know a lot of the international veterans in a competitive as well as a social atmosphere.

The fifth major event on the calendar is the 1998 World Fencing Championships in La Chaux de Fonds, Switzerland on October 5-11, where a veteran world championship event will be held in Mens Epee. The competition will consist of two age categories, 50-59 and 60-69, with each country restricted to three entries in each age category. The USFA Veterans Committee will submit a recommendation for a qualifying path for the event to the USFA International Committee for approval. Nothing has yet been finalized, but I've heard that there is a good chance that cumulative results from NAC-H and the 1998 Summer Nationals will be used to determine qualifications.

Stay tuned for further developments in the veterans program at the World Championships. Although only the Mens Epee event is currently approved, there is still a possibility, so my FIE sources tell me, that more weapons may be added for both men and women. Don't count on womens sabre this year, but if any other events are added you can probably expect the same 50-59 and 60-69 age categories. The FIE must make final decisions on other events by January, 1998. (All of this undermines my argument for calling ourselves masters fencers since the FIE has officially designated the Mens Epee event in Las Chaux de Fonds as a Veterans World Championship.)

The inclusion of veteran competitions is still in the experimental stage at the World Championships and this current restriction to Mens Epee is a continuation of a similar arrangement that was

initiated at Cape Town, South Africa in 1997. One would hope that, as the veteran movement around the world continues to grow, a full complement of events for both men and women will be added to the World Championship schedule. Obviously, this is something that we need to watch carefully and support whenever the opportunity arises. With all of these events scheduled for veterans you can see why 1998 promises to be, as Ed Sullivan might have said, a really big shooooow!

The Veterans Committee is also working on the development of some sponsorships arrangements and the creation of a web site for veteran news. By the way, for those of you who don't know who actually represents you for veteran fencing affairs, the Veterans Committee for 1997-98 is composed of the following people: James Campoli (FL) (Chairperson), Gerrie Baumgart (CO), Robert Block (CO), Joe Higday (KS), David Micahnik (NJ), Bruce Milligan (VA), D.D. Nicolau (AL) and Walter Triplette (NC).

One of the most important areas that must be given immediate attention if the veteran movement is to continue to grow and flourish is the need for a much broader activity base at the grass roots level. This is why the Veterans Committee is encouraging all Divisions to consider holding one or more veteran events locally each season in as many weapons as possible. If you like this idea and want the opportunity to fence in a locally organized veteran event, then you need to get involved by enlisting the support of other veterans and contacting your Division chairperson. And why not contribute to your sport by also offering to help with the organization and running of the event?. We all like to fence, but giving something back should mean more than merely a riposte given on the piste, especially when you've been around long enough to enjoy veteran status. Let's keep those blades actively engaged in all possible lines!

## 6-time Olympian 13-time U.S. National Sabre Champion

Peter Westbrook is widely considered the greatest American fencer of the twentieth century. *Harnessing Anger: The Way of an American Fencer* tells the story of how the son of an African-American father and a Japanese mother rose to the top of a sport traditionally dominated by white Europeans.

This is a book that delves into Westbrook's trials and tragedies, disappointments and successes, on the fencing mat and off. There are many fencing anecdotes, and life anecdotes—but Pete's response to life's tribulations is always that of a champion fencer: quick and decisive.

To Pete Westbrook, "harnessing anger" means controlling one's fury and channelling it in a positive direction. Westbrook's success in what he once called "that strange white sport," is really just one expression of the self-discipline which has led him to beat the odds, again and again.

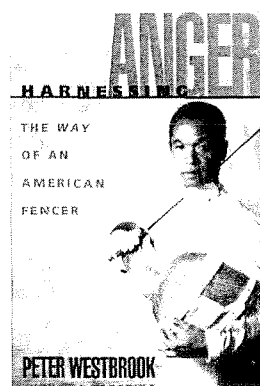
Photo by William Rivelli



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# Resetting a Foil Tip Without the Theatrics

Don't try to cure foil off-targets by beating around the blade.

BY JOE BYRNES

**W**hack. Slam. Bang. However you like to represent it, it is a sound that you will hear around fencing competitions. No, I'm not talking about some miserable-looking klutzy ham-handed lead-footed clown beating up on an opponent out on the strip. It is more likely someone with that same sort of temperament (whatever he or she looks like — this is a unisex fault) who is treating a recalcitrant foil blade to a lesson in manners. (It is a matter of easy observation that this behavior is pretty much confined to foil fencers; epeeists don't much indulge it; or, if they are inclined, don't keep fencing epee.) Where you will find this going on is off to the side, usually, or somewhere where there's a table that can be assaulted — even if it's one set up with a scoring machine and bouting is about to resume. What the fencer is usually trying to do, after a fashion, is to cure an off-target situation, by resetting the tip properly in the point housing, having come to the conclusion that the trouble lies in an improperly-seated point or tip spring. No matter that this procedure isn't likely to do very much good. At least it works off some steam, as they say, and gives you the sense of trying something, ANYTHING, to make the blankety-blank thing behave.

This practice is related to — but not identical with — the frustration-reaction that some fencers regrettably have learned to allow themselves to indulge: namely, miss the touch and then whack the side of the blade onto something (usually the edge of a raised strip, if that is what they're fencing on). Over the years, the USFA has had a number of pretty high-ranked, and even very successful, fencers who let themselves fall into that bad habit. It didn't seem to do them all that much good, as far as their results went, at least in my observation, but it was doubtless a form of instant therapy — much cheaper than consulting a psychiatrist — in dealing with the frustration of having missed by a country mile on the big attack.

Of course, when the whacking on the edge of a solid strip produced a serious dent in the delicate barrel that holds the point, the fencer was always repentant, and doubtless even more frustrated. I remem-



ber seeing one of them break a blade doing that. It took a couple of these competitors, whom I well recollect, quite a number of these expensive debacles before they began to relax a bit.

Back to our would-be blade repairers. Granted, sometimes a point can be set in there wrong, although the fault is not likely to be with the point tip itself — assuming that it is the right tip for that assembly. Yes, it is possible to mix-and-not-match in this game. And it is quite possible that what at least some of these frustrated foilists are experiencing

**Instant therapy, much cheaper than consulting a psychiatrist, in dealing with the frustration of having missed by a country mile on the big attack.**

may be a form of mismatch — I did a column on that subject almost two years ago (*AMERICAN FENCING*, Spring, 1996). Not to repeat here all that was said there, you need to be really sure that the spring you have in your foil tip is the right one. Unfortu-

nately, the difference between the right one and one that is just a teensy bit off-size (bigger is worse than smaller, in the diameter) is so small that it is no wonder that foils are sometimes assembled, even by professional suppliers, with the wrong components.

Also, let me not seem to be categorically condemning slapping a blade, in every circumstance. I will admit to having slapped blades down on a table or two myself in my time. But the word, you notice, is SLAP, please; not whack, slam, bang. There is a finesse to doing it that most of the (frustrated?) attempters of repairs miss out on completely. The kind of impulsion that will do a foil any good — if indeed any real good is ever done by such treatment — is a discreet one. If you suspect a mis-seating of the spring, you can try a firm slap on a flat surface. The trick is to have the blade land as flat as possible all along its length; less force seems needed that way for any result you can get. If that doesn't do it, continuing to bang away is not likely to do anything except loosen up further anything that may be loose — which could be the real problem. So, suspect something loose: threading, or a socket; or, if everything is really tight, then check for the wrong parts.

And as with any repair work you may undertake, you want to be sure that what you are doing will not disturb other fencers or repair people, lose their parts or upset them in the middle of a delicate adjustment, etc. Our sport is supposed to be courteous — not only out on the strip. (My thanks to the ever-observant Bill Murphy for reminding me of these particular forms of malpractice.)

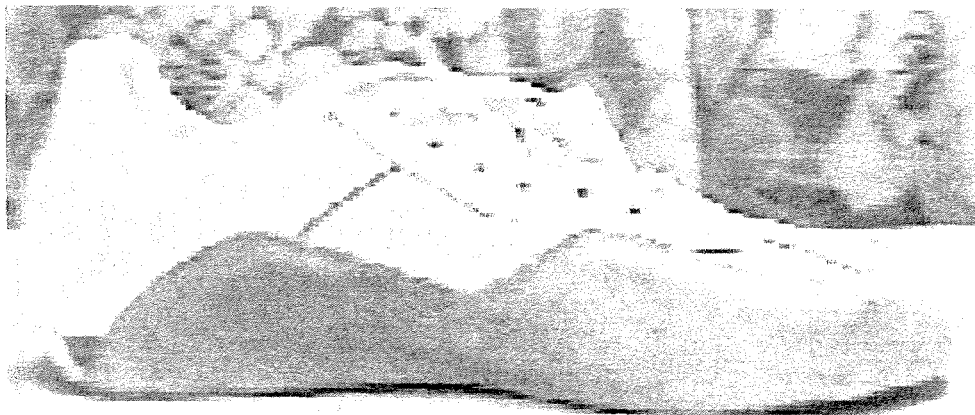
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# The USFA Referee Code of Ethics

The Fencing Officials Commission introduces standards to ensure an ethical, level playing field for fencers.

BY GERRIE BAUMGART

Fencing is an honorable sport and all the participants, athletes, referees, coaches and spectators, are considered to be honorable as well. In order to keep the traditions alive and help perpetuate the codes we all try to live by, the Fencing Officials Commission has put on paper, adopted and presented to the USFA National Board of Directors for its approval, the Code of Referee Ethics.

All who referee, regardless of the level of competition, are expected to abide by and live up to the standards contained within this Code.

The concepts of honor and right have permeated the practice of arms for centuries. From the medieval Code Duello — which held that only the just cause would triumph — to the codification of rules covering the emergence of competitive fencing in the nineteenth century, it is clear that both concepts are inextricably linked with the sport. Combined, they constitute fencing's essential spirit, an ineffable sense that justice will be done for the combatants.

This is the spirit that fencing referees must clearly recognize, embrace, represent and communicate.

It is not unlike the standard Hypocrites crafted for physicians: "The physician must not only be prepared to do what is right himself, but also to make the patient, the attendants, and externals cooperate."

This code of ethics seeks to establish for fencing officials - in particular the Referee - a guide to the exercise of Honor and Right. It considers four areas: Integrity, Competence, Responsibility and Dignity.

## Integrity

The Rules of Fencing assign sweeping powers to the Referee and important ones to ancillary officials. It would be impossible to fulfill the letter of these "laws" in the absence of the sense of the incorruptibility the idea of integrity implies.

Rule 55 states: "By accepting a position on a jury, each of the members concerned pledges his honor to respect the rules and to cause them to be respected, and to carry out his duties with the

strictest impartiality and most sustained attention."

For this reason alone referees must maintain and promote complete neutrality.

- ◆ Referees should accept assignments only when no conflict of interest exists.
- ◆ Even in those instances that may suggest a conflict of interest, the Referee must make it known immediately to the assignors e.g. pupil or former pupil, same club, et cetera.
- ◆ Referees are representative of the body conducting the competition and, therefore, must not consider themselves associated



*Two of our finest and most highly rated referees, Andy Shaw (left) and Sharon Everson share a laugh between bouts.*

with any country, club or individual during the competition.

- ◆ Referees are present at the competition solely to officiate, it is inappropriate to coach or assist athletes during the competition.
- ◆ Referees are to respect other Referees to the utmost. It is improper to publicly indicate disapproval of the actions of other referees.

## Competence

- ◆ Referees must know the rules.
- ◆ Referees must apply the rules.
- ◆ Referees must stay current on interpretations of the rules.
- ◆ Referees must attend scheduled clinics on the rules..
- ◆ Referees must offer their judgment to appropriate Officials Commissions concerning rules that do not accomplish their intended goals.

## Responsibility

- ◆ Referees must be available for assignment from the time they are required to report until released by the assigners.
- ◆ Referees must do nothing that would interfere with their mental and physical abilities to perform.



- ◆ Referees must check with the assigners for reporting times and be present a minimum of one-half hour prior to the starting time of the round.
- ◆ Referees must be within earshot of all announcements affecting referees, unless properly excused from the competition area.
- ◆ Referees are to be completely familiar with the duties assigned by Article 53 of the Fencing Rules and carry them out scrupulously.
- ◆ Referees must insure that scoresheets are accurate and that they are turned in to the Bout Committee immediately upon completion of the bout or match.

### Dignity

- ◆ Referees must be properly attired at all times.
- ◆ Referees should refrain from joining in horseplay or other exhibitionism that sometimes arise during breaks.
- ◆ Referees should exercise authority but avoid inciting contestants to misbehave.
- ◆ Referees should strive to conduct themselves in such a way that they earn a high regard from others.
- ◆ Referees should volunteer for withdrawal if unable to continue to perform.

This code is intended to provide the general principles by which Fencing Referees shall guide themselves and by which they will be measured by the Fencing Officials Commission.

*Gerrie Baumgart, the first American female awarded an international A rating, currently serves as communication liaison for the FOC.*

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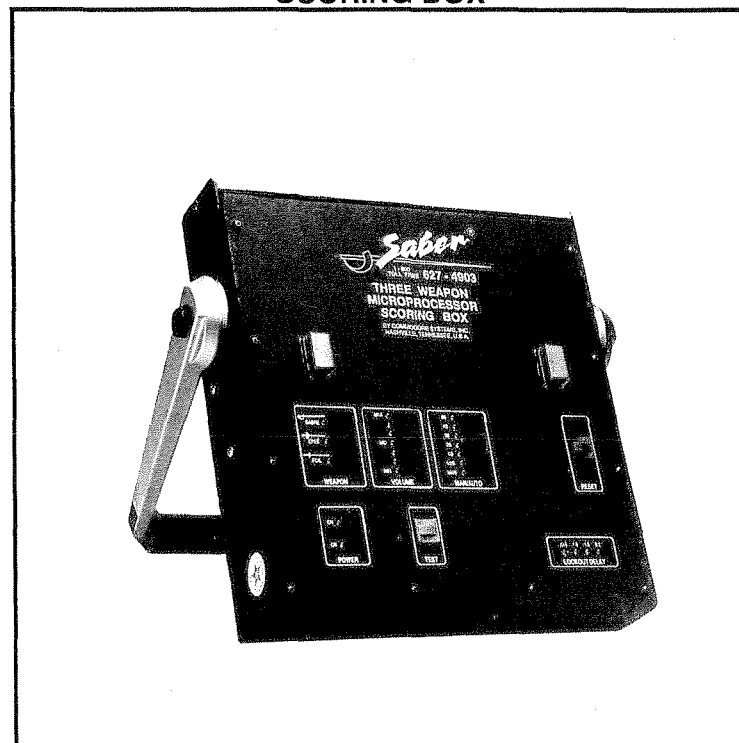
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It's imperative that we never forget  
the origins of the U.S. Fencing Foundation

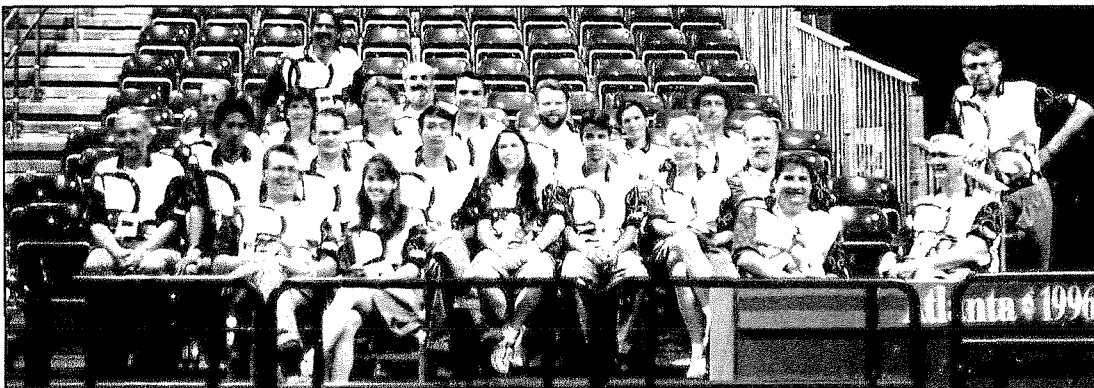
# Where Did All That Money Come From??

BY EDWIN (BUZZ) HURST

I think most of you out there know that there is a body called the U.S. Fencing Foundation, and that it provides money for certain (mainly international) USFA programs. A smaller number of you probably have a vague idea that the Foundation's money "came from the Olympics," and some of you may even know that its money came specifically from the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics.

regularly for this magazine, and I couldn't get out of the room in time when she got the idea.

The XXIII Olympiad in Los Angeles generated a huge profit when measured against its predecessors, particularly since most of its predecessors pretty much went in the financial tank. In fact, the last Summer Olympics to earn a profit before '84 was in 1932 in ... ta-da! ... Los Angeles.



Actually, by 1976 the demands of the international Olympic community had gotten so out of control that the city of Montreal (or rather, its taxpayers) are still cleaning up the financial rubble. Moscow had been awarded the 1980 Olympiad and L.A. was soon to get the vampire's kiss for 1984. Then an odd thing happened: the people of L.A. metaphorically boarded the International Olympic Committee's brigantine and tossed its tea into San

*Atlanta volunteers  
during the  
Centennial Games*

Beyond that, however, very few people either know or remember how that money was generated. As a result, a number of myths seem to have grown up around the question, and our esteemed editor asked me to write an article to set the record straight.

If you're wondering why I should be rendering this particular service to truth and justice, it is because I was the Manager of Competition in 1984, I write

Pedro Harbor. They voted by referendum that no public money could be spent to support the '84 Olympic Games.

The I.O.C. was, of course, outraged but then they discovered an odd thing: no other city would step in (actually, a couple of cities did offer, but nobody in the I.O.C. wanted to stay in them).

Fortunately, the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing

Committee was composed of a number of very savvy business people, and they assured the I.O.C. that if that body would authorize the use of preexisting facilities and demand no new construction, then a worthy Games could be staged with private funds alone. Our international friends were not happy (and the Marxists in the group were apoplectic) but their backs were to the wall.

They were particularly distressed that there would not be one Olympic Village for all athletes to stay in, but that instead, existing college dormitory space would be used. The Los Angeles folks countered that their idea would allow athletes to be located much closer to their competition and training venues (fencers, for example, were only 20-30 minutes away from the fencing hall) and besides, there was no such concept as an Olympic Village until the idea was introduced in 1932 in ... ta-da! ... Los Angeles.

Anyway, as the organizers started crunching the numbers more thoroughly, they began to see the possibility of not just breaking even with private resources, but actually making a profit! This feat could be achieved by (a) using good-old American know-how (b) hiring two brilliant executives, Peter Uberroth and Harry Usher to run everything; and (c) running almost the entire Games with local volunteers, i.e. people who wouldn't need housing or transportation - and wouldn't eat much. In fact, even the handful of paid executives would have to be from the local area. I suppose that the idea of using mostly volunteers may not seem so startling to the veterans of Atlanta, but it was a major innovation at the time.

The Organizing Committee next appointed as its Commissioner of Fencing Jan Romary, Los Angeles resident, six-time Olympic fencer and first woman to carry the U.S. flag at an Opening Ceremonies (Mexico City-1968). She hired as her Director of Fencing a prominent West Coast sabreman and referee, and then-chair of the Southern California Division, Carlos Fuertes.

The two of them knew that they were going to need a large staff to operate the 17 competition strips and 16 practice strips that the Olympics then called for. The Organizing Committee planners had intended for all sports to fill their personnel requirements by training local high school students, but Jan and Carlos both fought hard for permission to fill the position with fencers.

The problem was that there simply weren't enough available fencers in Southern California, so Commissioner and Director stuck their necks out a mile by assuring skeptical superiors that fencers from across the country would come forward to support the Olympics. Their gamble paid off. Applications from all over poured in even though the volunteering fencers had to arrange for trip, housing, and local transportation all on their own.

When the dust settled, we had staffed roughly 360 positions in the fencing venue and the attrition rate

was minuscule over the 16 days of the competition. The level of experience of these volunteers ranged from George Worth, who won the national sabre championship thirty years before, to Grant Robertson, who started fencing less than a year before (and had just turned 16, the minimum required age). They came from all the Sections in the USFA and almost every Division, and they did a superb job.

This was acknowledged even by the representatives of the F.I.E.: a group that is notoriously cranky at events of this importance. Overall, the Los Angeles Olympics employed almost 70,000 volunteers to make things happen, and you don't have to use a calculator to figure out that if these same folks had demanded even a modest stipend, the cost would have been enormous. Their generosity of spirit, combined with the aforementioned smart management and major corporate support (and some plain good luck) produced a net profit at the end of the Games of over \$60 million dollars.

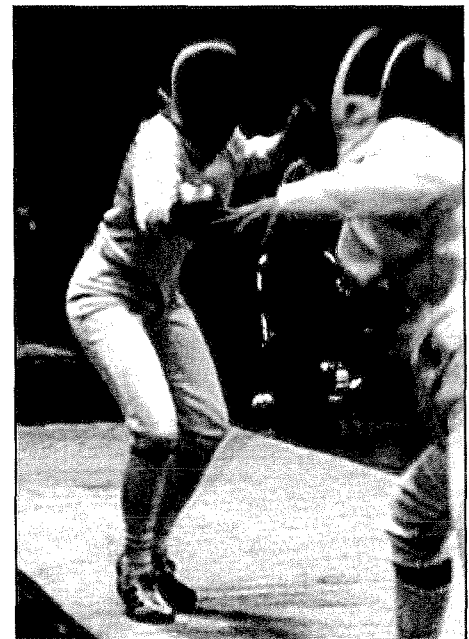
This sum was placed in escrow while the traditional waltz with the I.R.S. and the California Tax Board was performed, and when it finally came out of quarantine it had grown to well over \$100,000,000.

By previous agreement, this sum was divided into three portions: one to stay in Southern California for local sports development, one to go directly into the U.S. Olympic Committee treasury, and one to be divided amongst the USOC's sports governing bodies. The USFA's share of this bounty eventually came to some \$1.2 million.

Our USFA Board of Directors, then under the presidency of Lew Seigel, wisely decided to create a Foundation through which to preserve this money and earn interest on it, and to this day the money it injects into the USFA budget comes from the interest earned by that original investment.

That the U.S. Fencing Foundation remains as solid as a rock is due in great part to the compelling ferocity with which its director Irwin Bernstein has defended it from all contemplated raids on its principal. Nevertheless, we should never forget that the fundamental source of that money - the donors, if you will - were the rank and file members of the USFA whose hard work and generosity of spirit made the fencing competition at the XXIII Olympiad such a success. To paraphrase the great cartoonist Walt Kelley, "We have met our benefactors, and they was us!"

*Behind every fencer stand hundreds of nameless, faceless volunteers who make the competition, whether it's the Olympic Games or a local weekend event, happen.*



# EDITOR EMERITUS, AMERICAN FENCING MAGAZINE

## Ralph M. Goldstein 1913 — 1997

BY JEFFREY TISHMAN



**R**alph M. Goldstein, Editor Emeritus of American Fencing magazine and one of the leading figures in our sport, died on July 25 in a car accident outside of Bennington, VT. He was 83. He's believed to have suffered a heart attack before the accident.

Ralph began his fencing at Thomas Jefferson High School in Brooklyn, NY, where he started the team. His interest in the sport was first aroused when an older brother brought home a pair of foils as a wall decoration.

He received his first formal instruction from Joseph Smith in 1930 while he was attending the Brooklyn section of C.C.N.Y. (now Brooklyn College).

He subsequently joined the Brooklyn Fencers Club, later helped establish the Metropolitan Fencers Club, and finally became a member of Salle Santelli, where he was coached by Giorgio Santelli. Ralph came in for extra lessons on his lunch hour.

At Santelli's, he was a member of two national championship foil teams, five national championship epee teams, and the epeeist on the national championship three-weapon team. Between 1943 and 1959, he was nationally ranked seven times at foil and ten times at epee. His best finish in the nationals was third at foil in 1953.

Ralph was the Metropolitan epee champion in 1946, and at the Midwest Championships that year

he won the epee and sabre titles and was third at foil. He won berths on the epee teams that participated in the 1948 and 1956 Olympic Games at London and Melbourne.

But Ralph's greatest accomplishments in our sport were his contribution to other people's enjoyment of it.

For fifty years, he was one of our foremost officials, directing at local and sectional events, and frequently traveling substantial distances at his own expense to assist at collegiate and national championships. He was a regular for decades at the IFA and IWFA championships. The week before his death he spent eight days officiating at the nationals. But officiating was never without difficulty or discomfort for him, because a hip fusion he received in the 1960's left him with a severe limp.

During WWII he served with the Coast Guard and the Army Air Force. While stationed at Wright Field, he did much to reactivate the AFLA's Miami Valley Division. When he returned East after the war, he was a member of the group that rechartered Salle Santelli. By 1952, he had moved to Yonkers, NY, and helped to create the AFLA's Westchester Division. That year also, he was elected AFLA secretary, a post he would hold for nine years during the administrations of Miguel deCapriles, Jose deCapriles, and Donald S. Thompson. He subsequently served as foreign Secretary for another year during the administration of Dr. Paul Makler.

On the strength of these and other administrative achievements Ralph was named the captain of the 1960 U.S. Olympic Team at Rome. He had previously

served as captain of the U.S. teams at the 1958 World Championships in Philadelphia, and the 1959 Pan-American Games in Chicago.

When Jose deCapriles, the founding Editor of the American Fencing magazine, died in 1969, Ralph was appointed its second Editor by AFLA president Alan M. Ruben. Ralph served as Editor until 1976, and during his tenure the magazine remained the independent voice of the membership as it had been envisioned by deCapriles. He was named Editor Emeritus in 1976.

After leaving the editorship, Ralph became involved in the creation of the Empire State Games, New York State's version of the statewide contests that have become so popular. He was named the state fencing chairman for the first Empire State Games in Syracuse in 1978, and remained in office for 15 years, playing a key role in the success these events enjoyed.

In 1984, after years of encouragement from many corners, he accepted the nomination for the presidency of the USFA. Ralph finished second in a four-way race.

In 1969 Goldstein was elected to the Helms Hall of Fame.

He had a variety of interests beyond fencing. He was an accredited celestial navigator, and a lifelong sailing enthusiast.

In his late 70's, he rafted the Colorado River. He enjoyed bridge with a circle of his fencing friends.

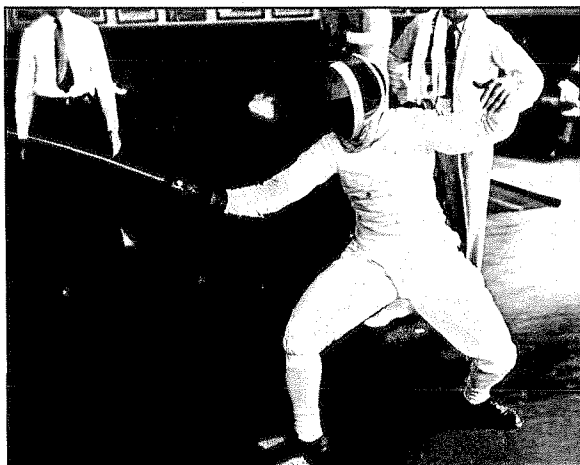
Ralph was widowed twice. His first wife, Stella Fox Goldstein, the 1934 IWFA champion for Brooklyn college, died in 1972. His second wife, June Goldstein, died in 1985. He's survived by his daughter, Barbara Jo Beck; and his sons, Peter and Henry.



Above, a Who's Who of American Fencing, the 1948 Olympic Fencing Team. Goldstein is third from the left in the first row. Top row (l to r) Dernell Every, Austin Prokop, Dr. James H. Flynn, Jose deCapriles,

Dr. Danny Bukantz, Norman Armitage, Miguel deCapriles, Dr. Tibor Nyilas, Donald Thompson. Third row, Coach Rene Pinchart, Dean Cetrulo, Norman Lewis, Andrew Boyd, Silvio Giolito, Albert Wolff, Coach Giorgio Santelli. Second row, Maria Cerra, Janice York (Romary), Salvatore Giambra, Warren Dow (Captain), Helena Dow, Margaret Every (chaperone). Front row, George Worth, Isadore Wasserman (trainer) Goldstein, Nathaniel Lubell. The Men's Sabre Team made the final four, where they beat Belgium then fenced Italy to an 8-8 tie losing on touches 61-59, lost to the Olympic Champion Hungarians and took the bronze

medal. Worth finished 5th in Sabre, Nyilas 7th in Sabre, Lewis 9th in Epee, and Cerra 4th in Women's Foil. Left, Goldstein's classic stance shot at NY Fencers Club. Opposite page, Ralph Meyer Goldstein 1946 Midwest Epee & Sabre Champion, 3rd in Foil. AMERICAN FENCING is grateful to Andrew Shaw for loaning these priceless photos.



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# MATTERS OF THE HEART

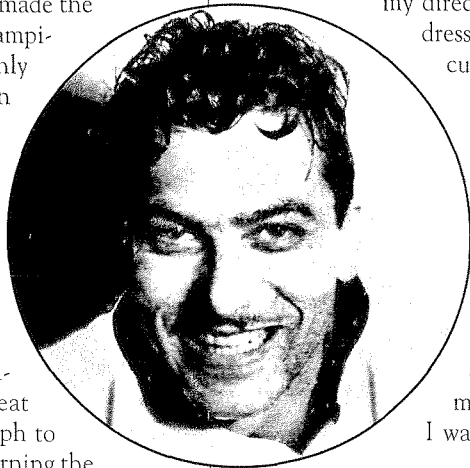
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## OLD FRIEND

THROUGHOUT THE YEARS RALPH WAS not only a legend in American fencing, he was a lifetime friend. For over 40 years we have been meeting regularly at fencing events. Our last was a very enjoyable dinner during the Nationals a few weeks before his sudden death. I would like to share two special stories.

In 1954 there was a three way tie for two places in the finals of the IFA (Intercollegiate Fencing Championships). Ralph was assigned to officiate. I fenced the first bout and lost. Before my final bout Ralph said to me that if I was not comfortable with his officiating and would prefer another official he would decline to direct the last bout. My immediate response was that my problem in the first bout was my poor fencing and not his officiating. He directed my last bout which I won. I not only made the finals but I won the championship. This was the only time I can remember an official making such an offer to a fencer.

In 1972 Ralph was editor of American Fencing and I was running for AFLA President by petition. Since I was running against the candidate of the Nominating Committee, great pressure was put on Ralph to only print articles concerning the "official candidate." Ralph was a man of principle and opposed the then President by inviting me to submit an article and picture for the magazine which ultimately led to my victory in the election.



I extend my condolences to Ralph's family. He had a profound effect on my life, and the lives of all he touched.

STEPHEN B. SOBEL  
FORMER PRESIDENT, USFA

## STUDENT

IN THE SPRING OF 1980 I WAS ASKED TO direct the Junior Sectional Qualifiers for the New Jersey Division. Throughout the tournament this very pleasant gentleman, Ralph Something, kept following me from strip to strip. He would side-judge the sabre for me, time and score the epee and foil. Periodically, he would ask questions about my calls: "Why did you call a halt then? Why did you throw that touch out?" These questions were politely asked, not the belligerent type directors were (and are) used to. In addition to specific fencing questions, Ralph asked me

my director's rating, my address, club and social security number. I told him I wasn't a member of the association anymore.

When the day was drawing to a close, Ralph approached me with an honorarium for the day. He held out \$50 in cash for my services. I told him I was promised \$75. He

said with a coy smile that he had paid me \$75! I showed him the cash; he showed me an AFLA membership form filled out with my personal data and attached to a check for \$25!! He then asked me to meet in Baltimore the following weekend where I would be able to take the referee's examination ... practical and written.

We spent the next few hours discussing his impressions of my work. His feedback still ranks with the most valuable I've ever received. Not only did our talk hold practical value, but it gave me the opportunity to see that this gentleman really cared for the sport of fencing for all the right reasons. As a result of our initial encounter I decided to pursue directing as my role in the fencing world.

Ralph Goldstein continued to be a mentor right through the Summer Nationals of 1997. In Santa Clara I spent as much time as possible with Ralph, and he still grilled me: "Why that call?", etc.

I treasure every moment that I spent with this gentleman. It is Ralph Goldstein's fault that I spend so much time at fencing venues. It is your fault, Ralph, and thank you.

JON MOSS  
NATIONALLY RATED REFERREE

## SUCCESSOR

THERE ARE MANY OLD FENCERS SCATTERED throughout the country who were saddened by the news of the death of Ralph Goldstein. From his youth to his old age he was involved in some phase of fencing.

He was a competitor, an Olympian, an active member of the Board of Directors, a highly ranked referee, and, for some years, editor of AMERICAN FENCING. I was one of those who succeeded him in the latter capacity and knew him best during those years.

He always let me know what he thought of "the magazine" and, as one of its founding fathers along with the de Capriles brothers, he strongly supported its editorial independence from the USFA administration. Given that we receive our funding entirely from the USFA, this led at times to some rather dicey situations.

He never gave up his faith in what a national fencing magazine could do for both

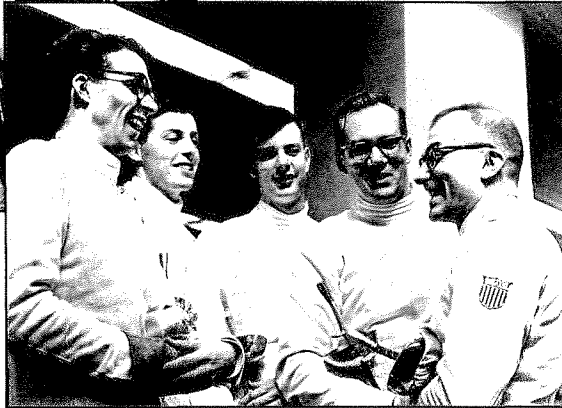
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# THE USFA REMEM





Above, Pieter Mijer (l) coached Goldstein in Epee. Right, (l to r) Fred Duncan, Paul Gans Levy, James Margolis, Ed Vebell & Goldstein.



daughter to pick him up for a party at which he was one of two "surprise" guests. I gave him my bottle of champagne to take with him. He gave me his business card so I could keep in touch and look him up if I was ever in New

## HISTORIAN

I HAD THE GREAT GOOD FORTUNE TO speak with Ralph on many occasions. He shared with me small personal events from his youth which defined the great man he grew to be.

One startling recollection concerned his father who never during his lifetime evinced any pride at Ralph's success in fencing. This in spite of Ralph's many medals, the Olympic Games, the accolades of his peers. In fact, neither parent ever saw him fence and they saw no value in the sport.

Ralph's father died in 1949 and, in the tradition of many American Jews, the family planted trees in Israel in the father's name. In 1953, Ralph was selected to represent the U.S. in the Maccabiah Games in Israel and he told his mother that he would visit the trees growing in Barnett Goldstein's name. For the first time, his mother, Fannie, said she was glad that Ralph was a fencer. Nearly 50 years later that acknowledgement still mattered.

When Joe Smith could offer Ralph, the student fencer, nothing more he sent him to George Santelli who would only give him foil lessons. Ralph's epee lessons came at the hand of Pieter Mijer.

Years later when Ralph was training in all three weapons to qualify for the 1948 Olympic Team, Warren Dow told him not to even think of making the team in foil no matter what his qualifying results. Dow had his own ideas of who should be on the team and, since he was captain, he was going to make certain that Ralph wasn't on the team. Foil and sabre were still non-electric in those days and Dow frequently refereed the finals bouts in those weapons.

When his days as a competitor concluded Ralph's meteoric rise as a fencing official began, becoming the first referee in American history to receive the title Director Emeritus upon retirement.

Though he competed on two Olympic Teams Ralph never thought he was a great fencer, that title he reserved for Albie Axelrod, the only American foil fencer to make finals of the World Championships.

ANDREW SHAW

USFA OFFICIAL HISTORIAN

elite and grass roots American fencers.

He was a pillar or strength (and of firm convictions). Ralph has left his mark on AMERICAN FENCING.

MARY T. HUDDLESON

FORMER EDITOR, AMERICAN FENCING

## NEW FAN

IT IS DAY THREE AFTER WHICH I RECEIVED word about Ralph Goldstein's death. I am still numb and the tears somehow seem to find my cheek bones every time I think back to the current Summer Nationals in Santa Clara where Ralph and I began what I'd hope would become a long and lasting relationship. At least longer than nine days.

Of course I've heard of Ralph Goldstein. Who hasn't in the fencing world? To actually have had met him is a another story. Never in my 47 years has one person made such an impact on me in such a short time.

I accompanied Mr. Goldstein and Mr. Axlerod to dinner twice per Ralph's invitation. I was able to share my father's suicide with him. He kept score for me while I refereed a bout or two. I stayed with him in the lobby while he waited for his grand-

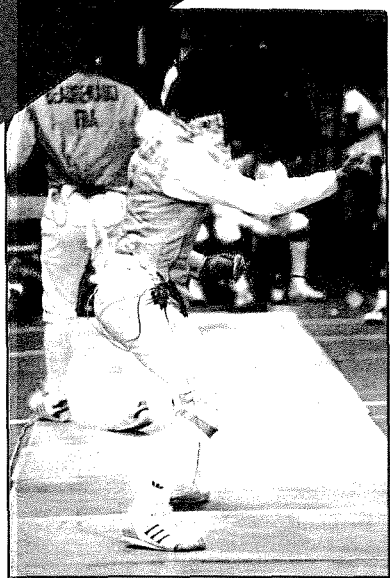
York. He put on his white Greek fisherman's cap and was on his way. Little did I know that not only was it the last time I would ever see him again but it was also the last fencing venue he would ever set foot on. My most memorable moment was when he told me that meeting me was the "highlight" of his trip. He had the mind of a sharp 30-year-old. He didn't want pity or anyone fussing over him because he used a cane. I adored, admired and respected him deeply. I will miss him as much as anyone who has known him all his life. He signed my book "Foil, Saber, and Epee Fencing" by Max Garret, Emik Kaidanov and Gil Pezza. I will cherish his signature for the rest of my life. A verse I read and retained years ago reads as follows "Would the boy you were be proud of the man you are?" I can answer that one for you, Ralph, absolutely.

Once time heals I will then be able to look back and realize how lucky I am to have had the pleasure of not only meeting him but spending time with him shortly before his death. Yes, damn it I want to be selfish right now and still grieve. The impact was that great. He was that great.

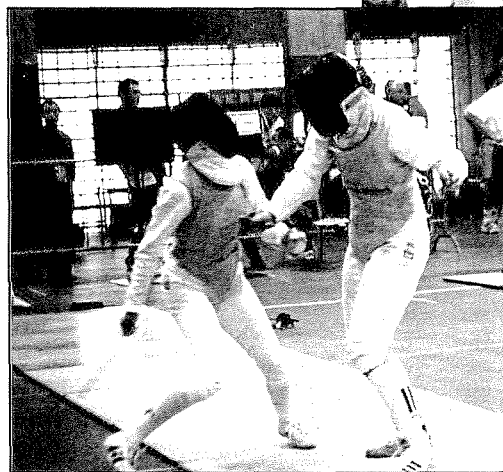
BARBARA ANDERSON

# IBERS RALPH GOLDSTEIN

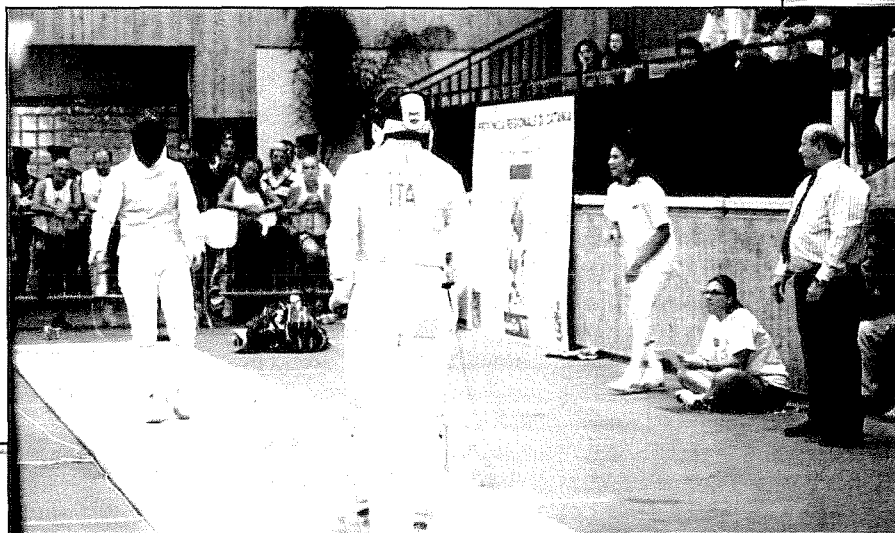
**A PHOTO REVIEW**  
**'98 World University Games**  
**August 21-30, Sicily**



*Above, Kellner's enthusiasm energized the team.*

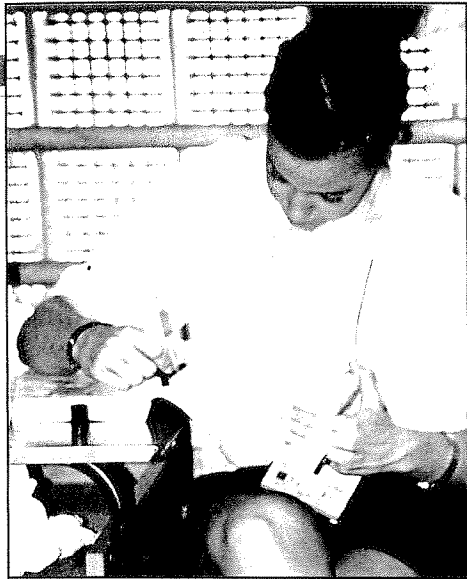


*Below, Bayer befriends the Carabinieri escort.*



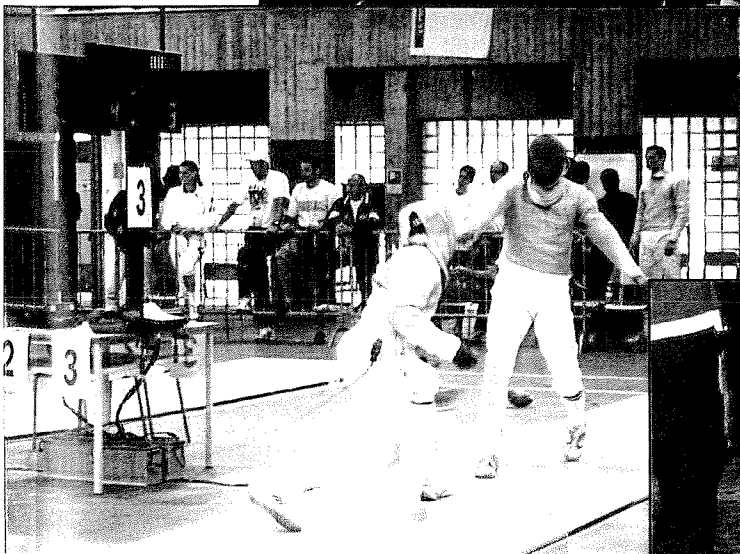
*Above, Zimmermann coaches Marsh. Left, Maggio takes a lesson from Nazylimov. Right Zimmermann's opponent tries to jump out of the way.*





*Above, off the strip,  
Marsh hits the books.*

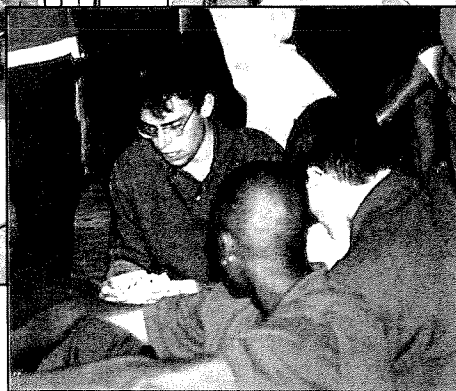
1998 World University Games Team back row (l to r) Bob O'Malley, trainer, Coach Ro Sobalvarro, Tamir Bloom, Keeth Smart, Julian Hentea, Cliff Devine, Julia Leszko, Alden Clark, Peter Devine, Elisabeth Spilman, Dan Kellner, Captain and Coach Vladimir Nazlymov, David Rosenberg, Terrence Lasker, Dan Gustafson, armorer. Front row (l to r), Candi MacConaugh, manager, Coach Yefim Litvan, Zaddick Longenbach, Jeremy Summers, Felicia Zimmermann, Janel Obenchain, Sarah Cathey, Susan Jennings, Jonathan Maggio, Monique deBruin, Ann Marsh, Simon Gershon.



*Above, Lasker scores the go-ahead  
touch. Right, waiting for the plane.*



*Above, the Men's Foil  
Team finished 5th.*

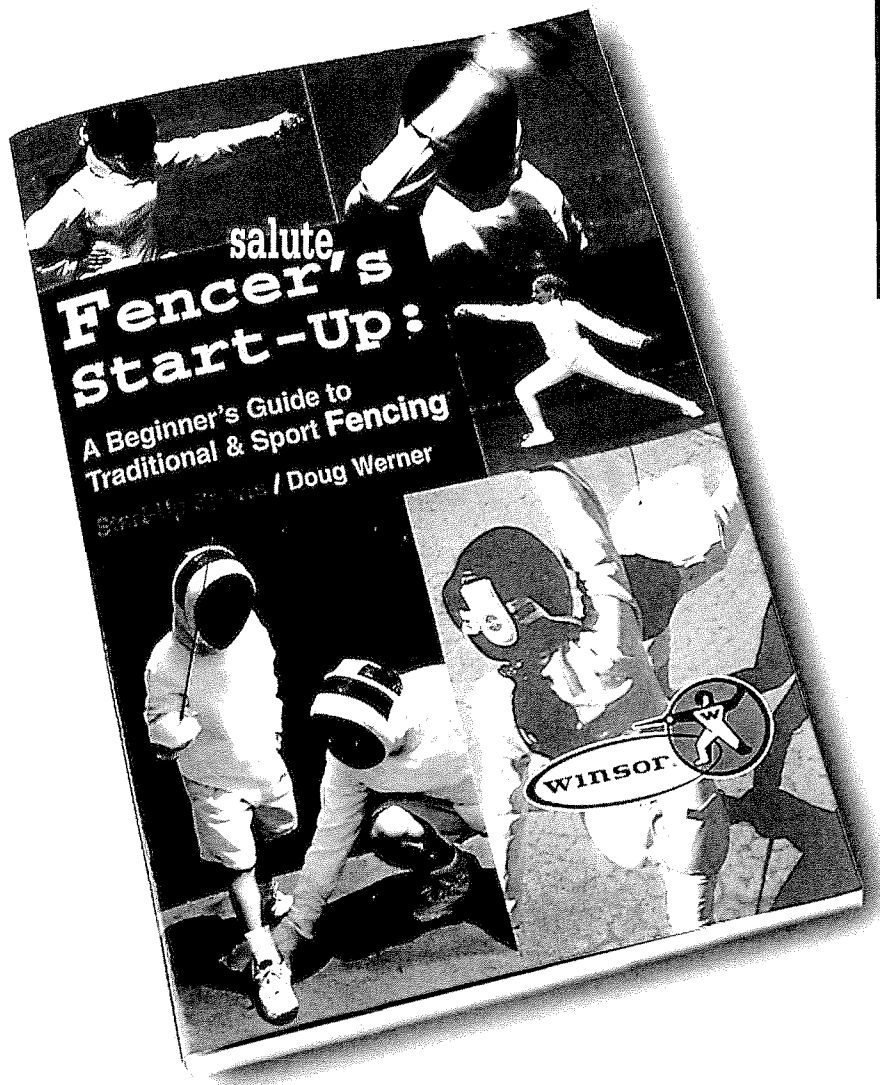


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# Optimizing the fencer's performance

# Sport, Drugs and Attention-

# Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder

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BY DRs. JOHN HEIL, LISA TEEGARDEN & DAVID HARTMAN

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Drugs are an integral part of life in America—for better and worse. Medical and recreational, legal and illegal drug use permeates society. For the athlete who suffers attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder, medicines and psychological treatment may bring tremendous benefits. The key issues to be addressed are how to optimize the athletes academic and athletic performance while avoiding the potential side effects of medicines and the possible pitfalls of a positive drug screen for a banned substance. This article describes the traits and treatments of this disorder and presents a plan for optimizing competitive performance for the fencer. In the process, importance issues about sport and drug use are highlighted.

## Drug Use in Sport

There are three key dimensions to drug use in sport: recreational, ergogenic (or performance enhancing), and medical. The prevalence of recreational drug use (e.g. alcohol, cocaine) is widely recognized in the media and through research studies. As one might expect, the patterns of use seen in sport reflect those of society at large. Recreational drug use is probably related to the adventure-seeking and risk-taking styles commonly seen in athletes. Recreational drug use may also be fueled by athletes' needs to manage the emotional ups and downs that are an inherent part of athletic competition.

Ergogenic drug use which is unique to the world of sport is prompted by the desire to excel, which is at the heart of sport. There are a wide variety of substances that have been identified which will provide the athlete with a competitive edge. While some substances are illegal, others have well established medical uses, such as anabolic steroids, which are invaluable in the treatment of certain hormonal dysfunctions. However, the way in which legitimate medicines are used for performance enhancement in sport usually carries unacceptable health risks. For example, diuretics which are intended for use in a variety of medical conditions where fluid retention is a problem, become dangerous when used to accelerate weight loss beyond the body's

normal limits. Even when performance enhancement drugs are relatively safe (e.g. the use of beta blockers to manage anxiety), they confer an advantage to those who use them over those that do not. Athletes who desire to be highly competitive may be inadvertently compelled to use drugs when it becomes a common practice in a given sport. In order to "level the playing field" and help athletes safeguard health, a variety of medicines have been banned for use by competitive athletes. This has created a thorny situation because it is difficult to draw clear lines between recreational, ergogenic, and medical uses.

Athletes are vulnerable to the same health problems as the rest of society, ranging from the common cold to asthma. In particular, athletes who train intensely are at significant risk for injury. Unfortunately, because of limitations in the precision of drug testing methods, there are a wide variety of otherwise legal medicines that will yield a positive drug screen—and as a consequence must be avoided. For example, dextroamphetamine which is banned because of its ability to help the athlete energize and focus, chemically resembles a variety of over-the-counter cold medicines as well as prescribed asthma medicines. So it is important for the competitive athlete (in fencing, those competing in North America Cups and National Championship events) to inform themselves about which medicines are allowed and which can be used without putting the athlete at risk for receiving a false-positive drug screen. In contrast, certain medicines which are not banned may inadvertently be a problem if the side effects of the medicine inhibit athletic performance. For example, Clonidine, which is used in the treatment of certain heart conditions, can lead to drowsiness, fatigue, or dizziness at a level sufficient to undermine athletic performance.

The use of stimulant medicines in the treatment of attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder reflects on each of the three aspects of substance use which have

*continued on following page*

been identified: recreational, ergogenic, and medical. The remainder of this article describes the traits and treatments of this disorder and offers practical advice on managing attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder through the use of medicines and psychological methods.

## Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)

This is a chronic biologically based condition. The primary features of ADHD are inattention, overactivity, and impulsivity. This typically results in problems in situations that are structured and that demand sustained attention such as school and sports activities. A great deal of information is available regarding medical and psychological treatments. However, most is focused on school and home behavior. Very little information is available about enhancing athletic performance. Recommendations for managing a competitive athlete are offered which blend pragmatism and sport psychology theory.

## Traits and Treatments

Research evidence suggests that the causes of ADHD are primarily biological in nature. Typically, this condition is identified in children between the ages of 5 and 11 years. This condition is quite a bit more common in boys than in girls and is conservatively estimated to occur in 2-3% of the school population. Symptoms persist into adolescence in as many as 80% of the children diagnosed, with over 30% still suffering significant symptoms into adulthood. There are three different subtypes of ADHD: including the Primarily Inattentive Type, the Primarily Hyperactive/Impulsive Type, and the Combined Type. Symptoms in the Inattentive Type include failure to give close attention to details with frequent careless mistakes, problems following through on instructions, and susceptibility to distraction by extraneous events. Examples of overactive and impulsive behaviors include excessive talking, difficulty awaiting turns, and being overenergized as if "driven by a motor". A combination of medication and psychological treatments usually yields the best results.

## Medications

Medication is the most commonly used treatment for ADHD. There are two main types of medications: the stimulants and the anti-depressants. Stimulants such as methylphenidate (Ritalin), dextroamphetamine (Dexedrine), and magnesium pemoline (Cylert) are usually the first line of treatment. Methylphenidate is most frequently used because it is thought to be more effective in controlling muscle activity. Dextroamphetamine is less expensive, but often avoided because of negative attitudes about this medicine due to its abuse potential. The majority of those treated with stimulant medications show improvement. The main effects are sustained attention, improved impulse control, and a decrease in overactivity. A number of other medications have been used to treat ADHD with varying success. These include anti-depressant medicine such as Imipramine, Desipramine, and bupropion (Wellbutrin), as well as Clonidine, an antihypertensive. These medicines have been shown to be of use only in limited cases probably because of their impact on co-existing psychological conditions such as anxiety and depression.

For some time, many health professionals believed that stimulants

had a "paradoxical effect" such that they worked only on those individuals with ADHD. However, research data suggests that the stimulant medication will not only effect those with ADHD, but would also likely improve most individual's ability to focus. However, improvement in those without ADHD would likely be less noticeable since their level of concentration is already closer to what would be considered normal for their age. In sum, the primary goal for using medicines is to boost performance in the classroom environment by improving concentration and enhancing learning. It is for these very same reasons that the stimulants are beneficial to the athlete when training and competing in sport. In essence, these are ergogenic drugs. This is the basis for including the stimulants among the list of banned substances for competitive athletes. However, the situation is unique in that the legitimate medical benefits are inextricably intertwined with the ergogenic benefits.

For all the potential benefits, the stimulants, like all medicines, carry a variety of side effects, some of which are severe enough to require discontinuation (in approximately 3% of individuals) of the medicine when it is otherwise beneficial. Common side effects of these medicines include loss of appetite, sleep disturbance, headaches, gastrointestinal disturbance, and other medical problems. Some side effects although not severe enough to require stopping the medicine under ordinary circumstances may undermine athletic performance. For example, the stimulants can increase the level of anxiety. For the athlete already anxious about competition, this effect can severely undermine performance. Other problems may be of concern depending upon the sport in which the athlete participates. For example, dry mouth (a common side effect) may be problematic for a distance runner, but not for a fencer who has regular opportunities to drink water or other fluids. Stimulants are also known to produce mild tremor ("shaky hands") or involuntary muscle twitching both of which could be a problem in sports such as fencing which require a high level of motor control and eye-hand coordination. In contrast, this may not be a problem for a distance runner or soccer player.

The stimulants are widely recognized drugs of abuse, creating a "high" or euphoria in large doses. This is of concern because the wide-spread prescription of these medicines for the treatment of ADHD makes them readily available. Like all drugs, amphetamines are especially dangerous when used in combination with other substances such as alcohol. In large dosages, the individual may become irritable, suspicious, and impulsive. In extreme cases, amphetamine psychosis can result, in which the person loses touch with reality even showing symptoms of paranoia.

Some believe that limiting consumption of complex sugars and food additives can reduce symptoms of ADHD. However, there is currently minimal research evidence that individuals with ADHD have any unusual sensitivities or reactions to food. This, of course, does not rule out the possibility of benefit in selected cases. It is possible that some of the benefits reported with dietary modification are an inadvertent effect of commitment to change and the increased discipline brought to the household. Meals are a central aspect of family life. The willingness of a family to change established patterns is a strong statement for value placed on excellence in living, learning, and performing. Psychological research on a wide variety of approaches to behavior change shows that clear commitment, realistic goal setting, and an action orientation are the foundation of behavior change under a wide variety of conditions.



## Psychological Treatment

The best results in the treatment of ADHD are found with a combination of medication and psychological treatment. Even though medication usually brings about improvements in a variety of areas, it alone is rarely able to bring individuals into the normal range of academic and social functioning. While medication may help the individual pay attention and control behavior, it does not teach self-control strategies or a positive attitude toward learning. A thorough psychological evaluation is often useful in that it may uncover alternate reasons for the behaviors that have caused others to suspect ADHD. Learning disabilities, other psychological disorders, and the presence of significant psychosocial stressors are examples of conditions that may alter behavior and cause the individual to be falsely diagnosed and treated for ADHD. In such cases, treatment is not likely to be successful in that it leaves the underlying problems unaddressed.

The most simple and straightforward of psychological interventions is education. One of the initial and most important steps when treating this condition is to have parents, teachers, and other significant persons (this should include the coach) educated about the nature of ADHD. This is particularly important because of the many misconceptions that exist about the disorder. Either parents or counselors should also discuss the nature of ADHD with the child in an appropriate fashion.

Behavioral interventions in the home and school have proven to be a promising alternative or adjunct to medication treatment. Behavior modification techniques (such as task modifications, token economies, and response cost programs) have all been shown to be effective in the school setting. In the home, systematic behaviorally based parent training programs have also been shown to be beneficial.

It is noteworthy that for all the behavioral changes typically brought about by medicines, there are psychological techniques of proven effectiveness which have the same effects. There are a wide variety of sport psychology based mental training methods designed to increase concentration, manage emotional intensity, improve decision making under stress, and optimize performance under adverse conditions. These methods are of demonstrated effectiveness in the performance environment. However, there is virtually no research on the use of these interventions with the ADHD athlete.

## Optimizing Fencing Performance

The recommendations that follow combine general knowledge about ADHD and principles of sport psychology. The recommendations grow from the fundamental assumption that the primary reason for sport participation is to enhance health and develop life skills. From this perspective, sport may be viewed as a learning laboratory in which one may refine the skills necessary to perform well in sport, school, and other life endeavors including concentration, goal setting, team work, and fair play. A set of tentative guidelines follows, which are to be assessed and modified through trial and error.

1. Be sure that significant others (and especially the coach) are informed about ADHD and its treatment. The discerning eye of the well trained coach will be able to pick up subtle variations in performance. For this reason, the coach is an important source of information in helping identify the right amount and combination of medication and psychological treatment.

2. Take medicines strictly as prescribed. Report any problems with the medicines promptly to your medical doctor. Also, let your medical doctor know that you are a competitive athlete and if appropriate provide USOC information on banned substances for fencing.

3. Undergo psychological evaluation and consultation to optimize performance academically and interpersonally. This need not be ongoing, but should be sufficient to establish a set of strategies and methods for managing the challenges provided by ADHD. These principles and practices should be clearly understood and implemented routinely.

4. Identify the athlete's level of commitment to sport, in terms of time and level of training intensity. Based on the level of commitment, the athlete must establish realistic competitive goals. This should strike a balance between the limits of ADHD as a condition with the inherent ability of committed athletes to overcome what appear to be obstacles to success.

5. Assuming a moderate to strong commitment to sport, the athlete should seek sport psychology consultation. The goal of this is to develop mental training programs to build skills in concentration, managing emotional intensity, decision making, and preparation for competition. Intervention with a sport psychologist can also help the athlete set realistic competitive goals.

6. Assuming a strong commitment and high competitive goals, the individual should undertake a specialized program to maximize the benefits of various interventions. The athlete must establish a practical strategy for when to use and when not to use prescribed medicines. This should be done in a way that avoids putting the athlete at risk for a positive drug screen. The athlete needs to acclimate him or herself to competing relatively medication free. This will require participating in some training with the athlete abstinent from medicines for a time sufficient to allow a clean drug test.

The athlete should also undertake a specialized sport psychology mental training program. This should begin with the assumption that the use of medications allows a unique opportunity to experience an enhanced psychological state. Specialized mental training programs (such as that developed by Unestahl of Sweden) which utilize recollections of ideal performances as a way of helping facilitate future performance. In essence, the goal is to guide the athlete in transferring the psychological state facilitated by medication use to situations where medicines are not used—through the use of individualized mental training interventions.

## Conclusion

ADHD presents a formidable challenge to the competitive fencer. Nonetheless, with ingenuity and precise training, performance skills can be developed and refined in a way that not only contributes to competitive excellence, but also to excellence in living.

*For information about USOC guidelines for drug use, please call the USOC Drug Hotline at 1-800-xxx-xxxx. The authors are members of the Department of Psychological Medicine of Lewis-Gale Clinic. For more information, contact Dr. John Heil, Chair of the Sport Science and Technology Committee at Lewis-Gale Clinic, 4910 Valley View Boulevard, Roanoke, Virginia, 24012. Phone number 540-265-1605; fax number 540-366-7353.*

**NAC A  
YOUTH 14, 12, 10  
OCTOBER 10 - 13  
DENVER, CO**

**Youth-14 Men's Epee**

1. Guevara, Joshua (North TX)
2. Cavan, James (Metro NYC)
- 3T Inan, Ali (Central CA)
- 3T Sanders, Michael (South TX)
5. Ludwick, Kasdon (Colorado)
6. Banks, Michael (Colorado)
7. Carter, Jonathan (West-Rock)
8. Durante, Eric (Central CA)
9. Rose, Julian (Colorado)
10. Beski, Johnny (Colorado)
11. Park, Daniel (Oklahoma)
12. Snyder, Derek (Southern CA)
13. Testerman, Nicholas (Oregon)
14. Jeffrey, Ian (Colorado)
15. Lee, Martin (Central CA)
16. Fettig, Adam (Colorado)
17. Smith, Colin (Colorado)
18. Howard, Greg (Indiana)
19. Verigan, William (New Jersey)
20. Adjemian, Aaron (Border TX)
21. Scruby, Jess (North TX)
22. Whalin, Douglas (Colorado)
23. Wagner, Drew (Colorado)
24. Wallace, Samuel (Northern CA)
25. Constantine, Adam (Metro NYC)
26. Baldwin, Neal (Indiana)
27. Poot, Sayab (Colorado)
28. Youdim, Anthony (North TX)
29. Habermann, Blake (Colorado)
30. Myers, Seth (Northern OH)
31. Donaker, Gregory (Central CA)
32. Eldredge, Blake (Central CA)
33. Vacca, Daniel (Colorado)
34. Lobser, Daniel (Colorado)
35. Bradley, Scott (Border TX)
36. Wunderlich, Sam (Kentucky)
37. Klugman, Terence (Colorado)
38. Horanyi, Andras (Colorado)
39. Schlender, Amory (Colorado)
40. Hambidge, Nicholas (Minnesota)
41. Spenhoff, Adam (Central CA)
42. Sinning, Kellen (Colorado)
43. Soto, Ediberto (Border TX)
44. Feuille, Joseph (Border TX)

**Youth-14 Men's Foil**

1. Snyder, Derek (Southern CA)
2. Guevara, Joshua (North TX)
- 3T Carter, Jonathan (West-Rock)
- 3T Decker, Alexander (Central CA)
5. Cavan, James (Metro NYC)
6. Banks, Michael (Colorado)
7. Inan, Ali (Central CA)
8. Mosca, Nicholas (Oklahoma)
9. Durante, Eric (Central CA)
10. Ludwick, Kasdon (Colorado)
11. Perry, Jason (North TX)
12. Bras, Alejandro (NewEngland)
13. Scruby, Jess (North TX)
14. Sherman, Scott (Illinois)
15. Park, Daniel (Oklahoma)
16. Barrow, Tom (Oklahoma)
17. Vacca, Daniel (Colorado)
18. Miller, Chris (Kansas)
19. Peterson, Vern (Kansas)
20. Woodhouse, Enoch (NewEngland)
21. Farr, Ian (Oregon)

22. Luke, Robert (South TX)
23. Testerman, Nicholas (Oregon)
24. Burriesci, Matthew (Central CA)
25. Hennig, Tommy (Virginia)
26. Hasky, Andrew (Western PA)
27. Beski, Johnny (Colorado)
28. Habermann, Blake (Colorado)
29. Lee, Martin (Central CA)
30. Rickford, Luke (Central CA)
31. Stauble, Andrew (Kentucky)
32. Sanders, Michael (South TX)
33. Donaker, Gregory (Central CA)
34. Shadid, John (Oklahoma)
35. Constantine, Adam (Metro NYC)
36. Wentzel, Kellen (Utah-So Idaho)
37. Barber, Joshua (Kansas)
38. Burger, Clayton (Kansas)
39. Bradley, Scott (Border TX)
40. Schofield, Jack (Central CA)
41. Thanhouser, William (Oregon)
42. Youdim, Anthony (North TX)
43. Richards, Jon (Kansas)
44. Norskog, Andrew (New Mexico)
45. Leahy, Austin (Colorado)
46. Sleeper, Jarrett (Illinois)
47. Poot, Sayeb (Colorado)

**Youth-14 Men's Sabre**

1. Momtselidze, Mike (Kansas)
2. Magee, Andrew (Kentucky)
- 3T Courtney, Matthew (Mt. Valley)
- 3T Clement, Luther (Kansas)
5. Zagunis, Marten (Oregon)
6. Isaacs, Joshua (Kansas)
7. Douville, David (Georgia)
8. Krul, Alexander (Southern CA)
9. Goellner, Nicholas (Kansas)
10. Williams, James (Mt. Valley)
11. Phillips, Zac (Kansas)
12. Boorstin, Adam (Southern CA)
13. Thanhouser, William (Oregon)
14. Decker, Alexander (Central CA)
15. Farr, Ian (Oregon)
16. Duncan-Hay, Tyler (Kentucky)
17. Smith, Kiel (Kansas)
18. Friend, John (Kansas)
19. Banks, Michael (Colorado)
20. Merrick, Thomas (Kentucky)
21. Greene, Joseph (Georgia)
22. Lee, Martin (Central CA)
23. Siegel, Jeremy (Huds-Berks)
24. Chernoff, Alex (Southern CA)

- 3T Zagunis, Mariel (Oregon)
- 3T Mouk, Julia (Metro NYC)
5. James, Kamara (Metro NYC)
6. Cross, Emily (Metro NYC)
7. Delahanty, Amy (Kentucky)
8. Florendo, Jessica (Metro NYC)
9. Rake, Madeline (Kansas)
10. Siebert, Syvenna (Kansas)
11. Hiss, Sophie (Oklahoma)
12. Goto, Jean (Metro NYC)
13. Duerson, Lauren (Georgia)
14. McGlade, Jasmine (Colorado)
15. Fisher, Jessica (Indiana)
16. Abdikulov, Zoya (Illinois)
17. Korb, Erica (Philadelphia)
18. Howard, Lindsey (Indiana)
19. Radke, Alison (Kansas)
20. Stevens, Fiona (Colorado)
21. Gaillard, Amelia (Georgia)
22. Jacobson, Raelyn (Central CA)
23. Loos, Alexandra (South TX)
24. Park, Rachael (Kentucky)
25. Sanbongi, Allison (Northern CA)
26. Leahy, Jane (Columbus OH)
27. Mendelsohn, Alisa (Long Island)
28. McLane, Alexandra (Colorado)
29. Gearhart, Sherice (South TX)



*The first of many medals for these young fencers.*

48. Quinby, Bret (Virginia)
49. Millman, Alexander (Connecticut)
50. Murphy, Carl (New Mexico)
51. Miller, Jeremiah (Illinois)
52. Fettig, Adam (Colorado)
53. Eldredge, Blake (Central CA)
54. Koop, Phillip (Oregon)
55. Smith, Collin (Colorado)
56. Pierre, Edouard (Illinois)
57. Horanyi, Andras (Colorado)
58. Whalin, Douglas (Colorado)
59. Haan, Theron (Colorado)
- 60T Serrault, Luke (Kansas)
- 60T Klugman, Terence (Colorado)
62. Schlender, Amory (Colorado)
63. Sinning, Kellen (Colorado)
64. Wagner, Drew (Colorado)
65. Hambidge, Nicholas (Minnesota)
66. Soto, Ediberto (Border TX)
67. Emery, Austin (New Mexico)
68. Feuille, Joseph (Border TX)
69. Cheek, John (New Mexico)
- 70T Jeffrey, Ian (Colorado)
- 70T Wunderlich, Sam (Kentucky)

25. Wolff, John (Georgia)
26. Burriesci, Matthew (Central CA)

**Youth-14 Women's Epee**

1. Luitjen, Cassidy (South TX)
2. Korb, Erica (Philadelphia)
- 3T Goto, Jean (Metro NYC)
- 3T Florendo, Jessica (Metro NYC)
5. Gearhart, Sherice (South TX)
6. Willock, Lauren (Kentucky)
7. Harris, Caitlin (South TX)
8. Jacobson, Raelyn (Central CA)
9. Hockeborne, Amber (Central CA)
10. Fishinghawk, Tonah (Utah-So Idaho)
11. McGlade, Jasmine (Colorado)
12. Stevens, Fiona (Colorado)
13. Cillo, Anna (Colorado)
14. Dawes, Jessica (Utah-So Idaho)
15. Helmich, Adria (New Mexico)
16. Tedjamulia, Andrea (Utah-So Idaho)
17. Murphy-Price, Marion (Colorado)
18. Georgevich, Mary (Illinois)
19. Park, Rachael (Kentucky)

**Youth-14 Women's Foil**

1. Luitjen, Cassidy (South TX)
2. Leahy, Jacqueline (Colorado)

**Youth-12 Men's Epee**

1. Bratton, Benjamin (Metro NYC)
2. Jeffrey, Ian (Colorado)
- 3T Howard, Greg (Indiana)
- 3T Vacca, Daniel (Colorado)
5. Myers, Seth (North Ohio)
6. Smith, Colin (Colorado)
7. Perry, Cameron (Colorado)
8. Adjemian, Aaron (Border TX)
9. Poot, Sayeb (Colorado)
10. Bradley, Scott (Border TX)
11. Schlender, Amory (Colorado)
12. Webster, Jason (Colorado)
13. Lobser, Daniel (Colorado)
14. Horanyi, Andras (Colorado)
15. Wunderlich, Sam (Kentucky)
16. Tovar-Ballagh, Pedro (Kansas)
17. Haan, Theron (Colorado)
18. Kenney, Duncan (Colorado)
19. Christopherson, Aaron (Michigan)
20. Kenney, Clayton (Colorado)
21. Klugman, Terence (Colorado)
22. Bryson, Kevin (Central CA)
23. Feuille, Joseph (Border TX)
24. Vergen, George (Border TX)
25. Glass, Nicholas (Illinois)
26. Dorashow, Zack (Colorado)
27. Turner, Cameron (Colorado)

**Youth-12 Men's Foil**

1. Habermann, Blake (Colorado)
2. Shadid, John (Oklahoma)
- 3T Hennig, Tommy (Virginia)
- 3T Woodhouse, Enoch (New England)
5. Vacca, Daniel (Colorado)
6. Adjemian, Aaron (Border TX)
7. Farr, Ian (Oregon)
8. Luke, Robert (South TX)
9. Jeffrey, Ian (Colorado)
10. Koop, Phillip (Oregon)
11. Schofield, Jack (Central CA)
12. Stauble, Andrew (Kentucky)
13. Myers, Seth (Northern OH)
14. Hodges, Teddy (Kansas)
15. Smith, Colin (Colorado)
16. Wunderlich, Sam (Kentucky)
17. Bettlinger, Maxwell (Kentucky)
18. Bradley, Scott (Border TX)

- 19. Heimseth, Andrew (South TX)
- 20. Pierre, Edouard (Illinois)
- 21. Chinman, Nicholas (Colorado)
- 19. Rohrlack, Charles (Illinois)
- 20. Sirkis, David (Kansas)
- 21. Zagunis, Merrick (Oregon)



USFA Executive Director Michael Massik with fencers at the Youth NAC.

- 22T hanhouser, William (Oregon)
- 23. Poot, Sayab (Colorado)
- 24. Bratton, Benjamin (Metro NY)
- 25. Malone, Jimmy (Central FL)
- 26. Lobser, Daniel (Colorado)
- 27. Banks, Jonathan (Colorado)
- 28. Radke, Andrew (Kansas)
- 29. Sleeper, Jarrett (Illinois)
- 30. Christopherson, Aaron (Michigan)
- 31. Haan, Theron (Colorado)
- 32. Schlender, Amory (Colorado)
- 33. Garcia, Hernan (Oregon)
- 34. Klugman, Terence (Colorado)
- 35. Lubin, Michael (Southern CA)
- 36. Zagunis, Merrick (Oregon)
- 37. Brussel, Joey (Colorado)
- 38. Feuille, Joseph (Border TX)
- 39. Bryson, Kevin (Central CA)

**Youth-12 Men's Sabre**

- 1. Clement, Luther (Kansas)
- 2. Phillips, Zac (Kansas)
- 3T Krul, Alexander (Southern CA)
- 3T Smith, Kiel (Kansas)
- 5. Friend, John (Kansas)
- 6. Williams, James (Mt. Valley)
- 7. Andrus, Curtis (Mt. Valley)
- 8. Thanhouser, William (Oregon)
- 9. Farr, Ian (Oregon)
- 10. Ghattas, Patrick (Oregon)
- 11. Chernoff, Alex (Southern CA)
- 12. Siegel, Jeremy (Huds-Berks)
- 13. Milliron, Joseph (Oregon)
- 14. Quirk, Ian (Northern CA)
- 15. Wolff, John (Georgia)
- 16. Rubin, Anthony (Southern CA)
- 17. Karbank, Octavio (Kansas)
- 18. Koop, Phillip (Oregon)

- 22. Czaja, Michat (Illinois)
- 23. Brugge, Nicholas (Southern CA)
- 24. Epstein, Jared (Illinois)

**Youth-12 Women's Epee**

- 1. Willock, Lauren (Kentucky)
- 2. McGlade, Jasmine (Colorado)
- 3T Helmich, Adria (New Mexico)
- 3T Stevens, Fiona (Colorado)
- 5. Fisher, Jessica (Indiana)
- 6. Georgevich, Mary (Illinois)
- 7. Park, Rachael (Kentucky)
- 8. McGlade, Grace (Colorado)
- 9. Cillo, Anna (Colorado)
- 10. Rush, Allison (Colorado)

**Youth-12 Women's Foil**

- 1. Leahy, Jacqueline (Colorado)
- 2. Zagunis, Mariel (Oregon)
- 3T Delahanty, Amy (Kentucky)
- 3T Mouk, Julia (Metro NY)
- 5. Stevens, Fiona (Colorado)
- 6. Cross, Emily (Metro NY)
- 7. Florendo, Jessica (Metro NY)
- 8. Park, Rachael (Kentucky)
- 9. Rake, Madeline (Kansas)
- 10. McGlade, Jasmine (Colorado)
- 11. Siebert, Syvenna (Kansas)
- 12. Fisher, Jessica (Indiana)
- 13. Edwards, Mikayla (Neb-SD)
- 14. Tedjamulia, Andrea (Utah-So Idaho)
- 15. Abdikulov, Zoya (Illinois)
- 16. Mendelsohn, Alisa (Long Island)
- 17. Finkel, Kelsey (Metro NY)
- 18. Cillo, Anna (Colorado)
- 19. Leahy, Jane (Columbus OH)
- 20. McGlade, Grace (Colorado)
- 21. Dawes, Jessica (Utah-So Idaho)

- 22. Finkel, Tess (Metro NY)
- 23. Siebert, Lillian (Kansas)
- 24. Rush, Allison (Colorado)
- 25. Georgevich, Mary (Illinois)
- 26. Berget, Sarah (Colorado)
- 27. Sanbongi, Allison (Northern CA)
- 28. Hudak, Meredith (Philadelphia)
- 29. Ontko, Marisa (Minnesota)

**Youth-10 Men's Epee**

- 1. Baldwin, Scott (Indiana)
- 2. Webster, Jason (Colorado)
- 3T Kenney, Duncan (Colorado)
- 3T Kenney, Clayton (Colorado)
- 5. Adjemian, Nicolas (Border TX)
- 6. Child, Daniel (Colorado)
- 7. Cheris, Zachariah (Colorado)
- 8. Cabrera, Stephen (Northern OH)
- 9. Chinman, Nicholas (Colorado)
- 10. Glass, Nicholas (Illinois)
- 11. McGovern, Cullin (Colorado)
- 12. Shrader, Jonathan (Neb-SD)
- 13. Dorashow, Zack (Colorado)
- 14. Glass, Patrick (Illinois)
- 15. Georgevich, Robert (Illinois)
- 16. Vergen, George (Border TX)

**Youth-10 Men's Foil**

- 1. Quirk, Ian (Northern CA)
- 2. Rake, Marshall (Kansas)
- 3T Dettlinger, Maxwell (Kentucky)
- 3T Chinman, Nicholas (Colorado)
- 5. Heimsath, Andrew (South TX)

- 26. McGovern, Cullen (Colorado)
- 27. Brussel, Leo (Colorado)
- 28. Smith, Austin (Minnesota)
- 29. Burget, Nathan (Colorado)

**Youth-10 Men's Sabre**

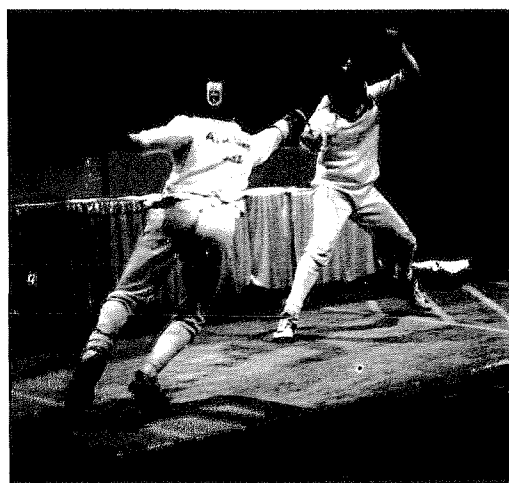
- 1. Siegel, Jeremy (Huds-Berks)
- 2. Rake, Marshall (Kansas)
- 3T Quirk, Ian (Northern CA)
- 3T Milliron, Joseph (Oregon)
- 5. Czaja, Michat (Illinois)
- 6. Wolff, John (Georgia)
- 7. Rohrlack, Charles (Illinois)
- 8. Rubin, Anthony (Southern CA)
- 9. Sirkis, David (Kansas)
- 10. Tovar-Ballagh, Juan (Kansas)
- 11. Karbank, Octavio (Kansas)
- 12. Brugge, Nicolas (Southern CA)
- 13. Zagunis, Merrick (Oregon)
- 14. Kelly, Sean (Kentucky)
- 15. Kudo, Rex (Southern CA)
- 16. Epstein, Jared (Illinois)
- 17. Smith, Ian (Kansas)

**Youth-10 Women's Epee**

- 1. Park, Rachael (Kentucky)
- 2. McGlade, Grace (Colorado)
- 3T Rush, Allison (Colorado)
- 3T Smith, Aaryn (Colorado)

**Youth-10 Women's Foil**

- 1. Park, Rachael (Kentucky)
- 2. Finkel, Kelsey (Metro NYC)
- 3. Finkel, Tess (Metro NYC)



Ben Atkins scores a solid hit in his gold medal match against Canada's St. Hilaire. Photo by George

- 6. Kenney, Clayton (Colorado)
- 7. Webster, Jason (Colorado)
- 8. Cabrera, Stephen (Northern OH)
- 9. Malone, Jimmy (Central FL)
- 10. Kenney, Duncan (Colorado)
- 11. Hodges, Teddy (Kansas)
- 12. Baldwin, Scott (Indiana)
- 13. Milliron, Joseph (Oregon)
- 14. Zagunis, Merrick (Oregon)
- 15. Cheris, Zachariah (Colorado)
- 16. Shrader, Jonathan (Neb-SD)
- 17. Vergen, George (Border TX)
- 18. Radke, Andrew (Kansas)
- 19. Glass, Nicholas (Illinois)
- 20. Adjemian, Nicolas (Border TX)
- 21. Dorashow, Zack (Colorado)
- 22. Glass, Patrick (Illinois)
- 23. Lubin, Michael (Southern CA)
- 24. Georgevich, Robert (Illinois)
- 25. Hodges, Grant (Kansas)

- 3. McGlade, Grace (Colorado)
- 5. Burger, Tristan (Kansas)
- 6. Siebert, Lillian (Kansas)
- 7. Hudak, Meredith (Philadelphia)
- 8. Brummet, Chelsea (Colorado)
- 9. Wooten, Alysis (Tennessee)
- 10. Rush, Alison (Colorado)
- 11. Smith, Aaryn (Colorado)

**NAC B OPEN NOVEMBER 7 - 10 ROCHESTER, NY Men's Epee**

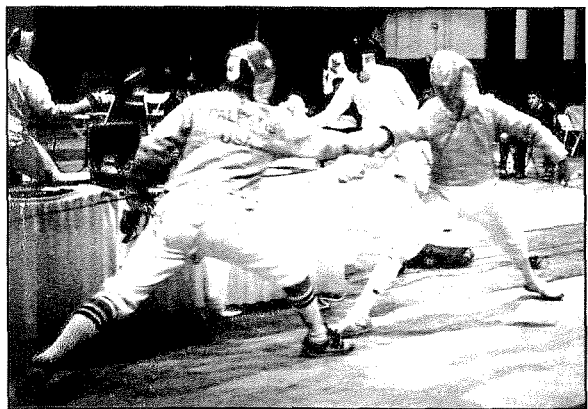
- 1. Atkins, Ben Z (METRO NYC)
- 2. St-Hilaire, Charles \* (CANADA)

- 3T Hansen, Eric J (NORTH CA)
- 3T O'Loughlin, Chris S (METRO NYC)
- 5. Di Cori, Andro \* (CANADA)
- 6. Rosenberg, David G (METRO NYC)
- 7. Normile, Jon (METRO NYC)
- 8. Rostal, Scott E (MINNESOTA)
- 9. Blat, Robert (MINNESOTA)
- 10. Masin, George G (METRO NYC)

- 25. Chang, Timothy (CENTRAL CA)
- 26. Keckley-Stauffe, Joshua (CEN.L CA)
- 27. Dubuc, Francois \* (CANADA)
- 28. Fisher, Joseph E (INDIANA)
- 29. McGill, Donald J (CENTRAL PA)
- 30. Perritt, Elya \* (CANADA)
- 31. Lutton, Thomas W (COLORADO)
- 32. Costello, mMichael (NEW JERSEY)

- 25. Clinton, Elliott (OREGON)
- 26. Morehouse, Timothy F (NEWENG)
- 27. Golia, Michael (METRO NYC)
- 28. Washburn, Jess W (MINNESOTA)
- 29. Sokol, Denis (SO. CALIF.)
- 30. Bookwalter, Tim A (SW OHIO)
- 31. Yilla, Ahmed K (METRO NYC)
- 32. Kim, Paul H (METRO NYC)

- 19. Botez, Lavinia \* (CANADA)
- 20. Blanks, Heather R (WESTERN NY)
- 21. McConkey, Marina \* (CANADA)
- 22. Leszko, Julia A (CAPITOL)
- 23. Thompson, Sarah (CANADA)
- 24. Foellmer, Kristin N (CAPITOL)
- 25. Anderson, Whitney R (COLORADO)
- 26. Frye, Mary P (PHILADELPH)
- 27. Obenchain, Janel (NORTH CA)
- 28. Hewitt, Adri \* (CANADA)
- 29. Dinu, Irina \* (CANADA)
- 30. McMenamin, Dianna S (CONN)
- 31. Hobstetter, Sarah W (NORTH CA)
- 32. Kehoe, Veronica L (LONG ISLND)



*Paul Palestis (left) on his way to earning points in the Sabre Open.*

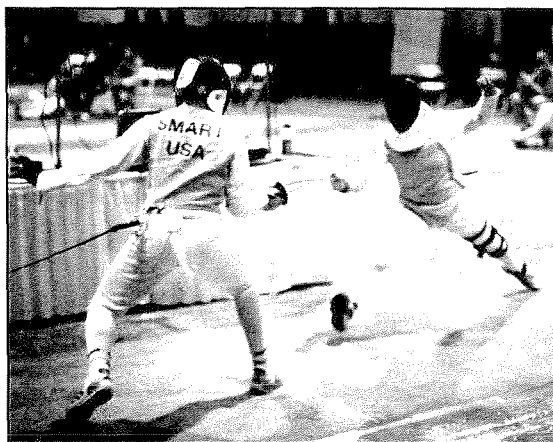
**Women's Epee**

- 1. Burke, Jessica B (WESTERN NY)
- 2. WALKER, CHARLOTTE (AUSTRALIA)
- 3T Schalm, Sherraine (canada)
- 3T Lepronon, Julie \* (CANADA)
- 5. Cheri, Elaine (COLORADO)
- 6. Stevens, Arlene (WESTERN NY)
- 7. Rudkin, Kate A (COLORADO)
- 8. Wawryn, Aleksandra (CANADA)
- 9. Griffin, Maureen \* (CANADA)
- 10. Miller, Margo L (SO. CALIF.)
- 11. Landymore, Heather \* (CANADA)
- 12. Cathey, Sarah E (MINNESOTA)
- 13. Campbell, Lindsay K (NORTH OHIO)
- 14. Maskell MD, Laura (OREGON)
- 15. Kavelaars, Monique H (CANADA)
- 16. Shaahid, Sakinah N (WESTERN PA)
- 17. Pelletier, Marie-Eve (CANADA)
- 18. Burleigh, Bettina E (WESTERN NY)

**Women's Foil**

- 1. Zimmermann, Iris T (WESTERN NY)
- 2. Zimmermann, Felicia T (WESN NY)
- 3T Smart, Erinn L (METRO NYC)
- 3T McDaniel, Rachel (PHILADELPH)
- 5. Hervieu, Brigitte \* (CANADA)
- 6. Martin, Margaret A (WESTERN NY)
- 7. MAHONEY, JULIE \* (CANADA)
- 8. Ament, Andrea E (NORTH OHIO)
- 9T Esteve, Ceclia \* (MEXICO)
- 9T Borresen, Karen (PHILADELPH)
- 11. Takagi, Melanie J (GEORGIA)
- 12. Foellmer, Kristin N (CAPITOL)
- 13. Martin, Tasha (OREGON)
- 14. Sassine, Sandra \* (CANADA)
- 15. Rostal, Mindy K (MINNESOTA)
- 16. Bent, Cindy L (WESTERN PA)
- 17. Smith, Julie T (UTAH/S.IDA)
- 18. Cox, Bethany A (UTAH/S.IDA)
- 19. Moroney, Karen V (NEW JERSEY)
- 20. Jones, Melanie (NEW JERSEY)
- 21. Luitjen, Cassidy C (SO. TEXAS)
- 22. Cavan, Kathryn M (METRO NYC)
- 23. Ocampo, Christiane (NEW JERSEY)
- 24. Staudinger, Lauren F (WEST-ROCK)
- 25. Jennings, Susan K (WESTERN NY)
- 26. Surdu, Lavinia a (CANADA)
- 27. Lindsay, Lavinia C (PHILADELPH)
- 28. Sztotyory-Grove, Orsi (GULFCST TX)
- 29. Ladenheim, Karen M (NORTH CA)
- 30. Bakos, Amber \* (Canada)
- 31. Katz, Emily L (NEW JERSEY)
- 32. Armstrong, Laura A (SO. CALIF.)

- 11. Block, Claus Diet (NORTH CA)
- 12. Oshima, Marc (METRO NYC)
- 13. Ransom, James \* (CANADA)
- 14. Peros, Matthew (CANADA)
- 15. Thompson, Soren (SAN DIEGO)
- 16. Hentea, Julian Geo (NEW JERSEY)
- 17. Kahn, Jeremy M (N.CAROLINA)
- 18. Viviani, Jan (METRO NYC)
- 19. Train, Timothy D (MARYLAND)
- 20. Prihodko, Andrew V (NEWENG)
- 21. Habib, Farooq \* (CANADA)
- 22. Carpenter, John D (SO. CALIF.)
- 23. Bertrand, Nicolas \* (CANADA)
- 24. Herrera, Benn P (NORTH CA)
- 25. Orman, Jesse R (MINNESOTA)
- 26. Zucker, Noah L (METRO NYC)
- 27. Fencer excluded (CANADA)
- 28. Feldschuh, Michael (METRO NYC)
- 29. Hibnes, Marshall A (WESTERN WA)
- 30. Chilen, Luke P (SO. TEXAS)
- 31. Macgregor, Jason (CANADA)
- 32. Baby, Brendan (CENTRAL PA)



*Met's Erinn Smart (left) squared off against Margaret Martin in the Women's Foil finals.*

**Men's Sabre**

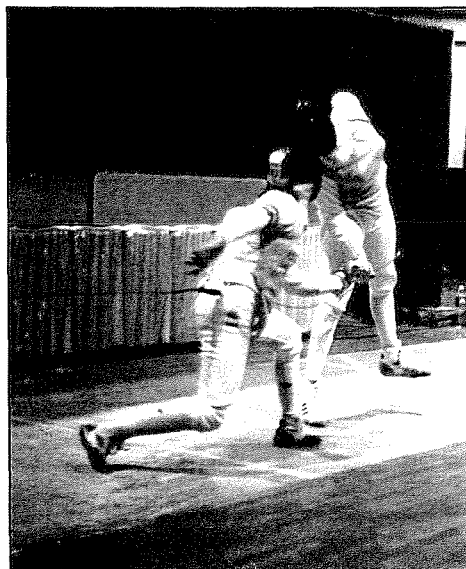
- 1. Spencer-El, Akhnaten A (MET NYC)
- 2. Durkan, Patrick J (METRO NYC)
- 3T Lasker, Terrence L (KANSAS)
- 3T Lapointe, Frederick (CANADA)
- 5. Hassoun, Marc-Olivi (CANADA)
- 6. Skarbonkiewicz, Adam T (OREGON)
- 7. D'Asaro II, Michael (METRO NYC)
- 8. Rogers, Jason N (SO. CALIF.)
- 9. LaValle III, Luke P (METRO NYC)
- 10. Summers, Timothy M (KANSAS)
- 11. Boulos, Michel \* (CANADA)
- 12. Parker, G. Colin (GEORGIA)
- 13. Summers, Jeremy S (KANSAS)
- 14. Smart, Keeth T (METRO NYC)
- 15. Raynaud, Herby (METRO NYC)
- 16. Palestis, Paul (NEW JERSEY)
- 17. Lee, Ivan J (METRO NYC)
- 18. LaValle, David M (METRO NYC)
- 19. Scheffler, Lee R (NEWENGLAND)
- 20. Maggio, Jonathan S (METRO NYC)
- 21. Whitmer, Darrin S (MICHIGAN)
- 22T Cheung, Paul \* (CANADA)
- 22T Stuewe, Aaron C (CENTRAL PA)
- 24. Cordero, Jerome W (LONG ISLND)

**Men's Foil**

- 1. Reichling, Felix \* (GERMANY)
- 2. Kellner, Dan J (METRO NYC)
- 3T Brouillet, Mathieu \* (CANADA)
- 3T Suarez, Rafael \* (VENEZUELA)
- 5. Bergeron, Nicolas \* (CANADA)
- 6. Devine, Peter E (METRO NYC)
- 7. Griffin, Ayo (METRO NYC)
- 8. Pomares, Raul (NORTH CA)
- 9. Longenbach, Zaddick X (METRO )
- 10. Perritt, Simeon \* (CANADA)
- 11. Bayer, Cliff S (METRO NYC)
- 12. Hamza, Maher (GULFCST TX)
- 13. Apsimon, Paul \* (CANADA)
- 14. Cho, Michael H (MICHIGAN)
- 15. Anderson, Robert J (METRO NYC)
- 16. Silverstein, Adam \* (CANADA)
- 17. Wood, Alex W (WESTERN NY)
- 18. Chilton, J. Kenneth (SO. CALIF.)
- 19. Gregoire, Louis-Pier (CANADA)
- 20. Lidow, David R (CENTRAL PA)
- 21. Gearhart, Andy R (WESTERN NY)
- 22. Rosen, Peter (METRO NYC)
- 23. Brunner, Stanton (WESTERN NY)
- 24. Converse, Pat D (GEORGIA)
- 28

**Women's Sabre**

- 1. Smith, Julie T (UTAH/S.IDA)



*It had to happen sooner or later: Felicia Zimmermann (left) met sister Iris in the NAC gold medal match. All photos from NAC-B by George Schnabel.*

- 2. Becker, Christine (OREGON)
- 3T Williams, Kelly J (KANSAS)
- 3T Klinskov, Ariana (NEWENGLAND)
- 5. Washburn, Carolyn\* (Canada)
- 6. Bartholomew, Sue A (MINNESOTA)
- 7. Saschenbrecker, Wendy\* (Canada)
- 8. Latham, Christine (KANSAS)
- 9. Saworski, Donna (Canada)
- 10. Chan, Brindisi M (NEWENGLAND)
- 11. Goellner, Natasha L (KANSAS)
- 12. Brosnan, Heather J (OREGON)
- 13. Purcell, Caroline M (METRO NYC)
- 14. Jurich, Diane M (MT. VALLEY)
- 15. Sultan, Natasha\* (Canada)
- 16. Ferguson, Diane F (VIRGINIA)
- 17. Mustilli, Marisa A (NEW JERSEY)
- 18. Solomon, Sara G (GULFCST TX)
- 19. Whitmer, Connie A (MICHIGAN)
- 20. Dorren, Karen (SAN DIEGO)
- 21. Smith, Chaz (MT. VALLEY)
- 22. Choi, Myra M (METRO NYC)
- 23. Woodrow, Sarah (Canada)
- 24. Douville, Rebecca A (GEORGIA)
- 25. McDowell, Amy A (ST. LOUIS)
- 26. Hanna, Katherine (MINNESOTA)
- 27. Aubin-Rheaume, Pascale\* (Canada)
- 28. Feldman, Jill A (CAPITOL)
- 29. Giuliano, Anne W (UTAH/S.IDA)
- 30. Fencer excluded (Kansas)
- 31. Miller, Joy M (METRO NYC)
- 32. Seymour, Sally E (MT. VALLEY)

**NAC B  
JUNIOR  
NOVEMBER 7 - 10  
ROCHESTER, NY**

**Men's Epee**

- 1. Greenhouse, Rashaan O MET
- 2. Solomon, Benjamin J N.OHIO
- 3T Bertrand, Nicolas \* CAN
- 3T Nye, Howard L M IL
- 5. Thompson, Soren S.DIEG.
- 6. Clarke, Scott COLORADO
- 7. St. Francis, John M COLO
- 8. Viviani, Jan MET
- 9. Alberola, Emmanuel \* CAN
- 10. O'Malley, Darragh \* CAN
- 11. Kelsey, Weston OR
- 12. HARDY, SIMON \* CAN
- 13. Kordunov, Yurig \* CAN
- 14. Eriksen, Scott J NE
- 15. Singh, Ranjeet G BORD.TEX
- 16. Mattern, Cody OR
- 17. Lefion, Jean \* CAN
- 18. Dussault, Philippe \* CAN
- 19. Mcinturff, Kevin R VIRGINIA
- 20. KING, GAVIN H \* CAN
- 21. Rando, Gian-Carlo N.TX
- 22. Burchard, Byron M N.CA
- 23. Speights, Eric V CAP
- 24. Dirksen, Nathaniel WEST. WA
- 25. Peterson, Kraig W. NY
- 26. Martemucci, Marco J CENT.PA
- 27. Flanagan, James P MINN
- 28. Danubius, Razvan \* SWEDEN
- 29. Kurylo, Steven \* CAN
- 30. Hamann, Charles W MET
- 31. Giroux, Gabriel \* CAN
- 32. Rabiega, Greer M OR

**Men's Foil**

- 1. Dupree, Jedediah MET

- 2. Perritt, Simeon \* CAN
- 3T Rosen, Peter MET
- 3T Wood, Alex W W. NY
- 5T Chang, Timothy C.CA
- 5T Jaspers, Nico \* GER
- 7. Boudrias, Mathieu \* CAN
- 8. Padgitt, Tedd S S.DIEG.
- 9. Cohen, David A G.TX
- 10. Stroud, Andrew N C.FL
- 11. Griffin, Ayo MET
- 12. Laprise, Pierre-Oli CAN
- 13. Thompson, Soren S.DIEG.
- 14. Breden, Roland G CAP
- 15. Reagan, Dustin R OK
- 16. Gerberman, Steven B IL
- 17. Cohen, Yale E G.TX
- 18. Eriksen, Kevin S NE
- 19. Walton, Forest E NE
- 20. Cote, Alexis \* CAN
- 21. Cameron, Matt W IL
- 22. Rabiega, Greer M OR
- 23. McGuire, Joshua j \* CAN
- 24. St-Denis, Martin \* CAN
- 25. Fisher, Joseph E IN
- 26T Mulholland, Mark B N.CA
- 26T Mosca, Michael P OK
- 28. Hiri, Kean D N.TX
- 29. Townley, Stephen G N.ENG
- 30. Decker, Alexander C.CA
- 31. Coode, Daniel \* CAN
- 32. Stokes, Nick NY

**Men's Sabre**

- 1. Durkan, Patrick J MET
- 2. Lapointe, FrederickCAN
- 3T Whitmer, Darrin S MI
- 3T Bednarski, Andrzej IN
- 5. Cheung, Paul \* CAN
- 6. Hassoun, Marc-Olivi CAN
- 7. LaValle, David M MET
- 8. Lee, Ivan J MET
- 9. Sokol, Denis S.CA
- 10. Rogers, Jason N S.CA
- 11. Lee, Jeff H NJ
- 12. Takagi, Michael J GA
- 13. Girard, Kyle \* CAN
- 14. Crompton, Andre NJ
- 15. LaValle III, Luke P MET
- 16. Parker, G. Colin GA
- 17. Blackburn, David \* CAN
- 18. Loftin, Guy B KS
- 19. Wallen, James R SAN BERNAR
- 20. Pratt, Daniel W IN
- 21. Stuewe, Aaron C CENTRAL PA
- 22. Pack, Ronald NJ
- 23. Shirkey, Brent A \* CAN
- 24. Mahen, Andrew NJ
- 25. Chartrand, Patrice \* CAN
- 26. Piette, Eric \* CAN
- 27. Yilla, Ahmed K MET
- 28. Goldsmid, Aaron P MET
- 29. DeMatteis, Jared W NJ
- 30. Bailey-Yavondit, DanHB
- 31. Fabricant, Matthew NJ
- 32. Washburn, Jess W MINN

**Women's Epee**

- 1. Burke, Jessica B W. NY
- 2. Rudkin, Kate A COLORADO
- 3T Lepronon, Julie \* CAN
- 3T Korfanty, Alexandra OR
- 5. Ament, Andrea E NORTH OHIO
- 6. Stevens, Arlene W. NY
- 7. Dunnette, Catherine CAN
- 8. Carnick, Anna N W. NY
- 9. Hobstetter, Sarah W N.CA

- 10. Walton, Kerry E NE
- 11. Kellam, Michelle e CAN
- 12. Coley, Kari P PHILADELPH
- 13. Chilen, Hannah SO. TEXAS
- 14. De Ieso, Gina NJ
- 15. McGalliard, Amanda K PHILA
- 16. Anderson, Whitney R COLO
- 17. Hurme, Kristiina SO. TEXAS
- 18. Fortin, Anne-Miche CAN
- 19. Conley, Monica A NJ
- 20. Thompson, Sarah CAN
- 21. Kehoe, Rebecca L LONG ISLND
- 22. Dunlop, Mary J NJ
- 23. Chin, Meredith M N.ENG
- 24. Giroux, Virginie \* CAN
- 25. Shaahid, Sakinah N WEST.PA
- 26. Caputo, Elizabeth NJ
- 27. Pelletier,Marie-Eve CAN
- 28. Di Cori, Leyla CAN
- 29. Linton, Kimberly B S. JERSEY
- 30. Lawrence, Maya A NJ
- 31. McMenamin, Sarah CONN
- 32. Pieper, Anna M MINNESOTA

**Women's Foil**

- 1. Mahoney, Julie \* CAN
- 2. Ament, Andrea E NORTH OHIO
- 3T Jennings, Susan K W. NY
- 3T Sassine, Sandra \* CAN
- 5. Fielding-Segal, Stephanie MET
- 6. Rostal, Mindy K MINNESOTA
- 7. Borresen, Karen PHILADELPH
- 8. Cavan, Kathryn M MET
- 9. Luitjen, Cassidy C SO. TEXAS
- 10. Daoust, Elise \* CAN
- 11T Leahy, Jacqueline COLORADO
- 11T Rudkin, Kate A COLORADO
- 13. Selkirk, Zane C MET
- 14. Stinetorf, Chloe L N.CA

- 15. Petit, Myriame \* CAN
- 16. Takagi, Melanie J GA
- 17. Katz, Emily L NJ
- 18. Staudinger, Lauren F W.ROCK
- 19. Chin, Meredith M N.ENG
- 20. Edwards, Merryn \* CAN
- 21. Thompson, Hannah M W. NY
- 22. Shaahid, Sakinah N WESTERN PA
- 23. Campbell, Lindsay K N.OHIO
- 24. O'Neill, Austin H WEST-ROCK
- 25. De Ieso, Gina NJ
- 26. Boutsikaris, Liza A NJ
- 27. Bozovic, Ana MET
- 28. Bakos, Amber \* CAN
- 29. Beard-Canfield, Marley I NE
- 30. Nugent, Melany L CAN
- 31. Thompson, Metta K W. NY
- 32. Thottam, Elizabeth S.CA

**Women's Sabre**

- 1. Purcell, Caroline M MET
- 2. Goellner, Natasha L KS
- 3T Pack, Catherine NJ
- 3T Mazur, Natalia A NJ
- 5. Mustilli, Marisa A NJ
- 6. Kasprovicz, Aneta NJ
- 7. Marr, Jodi \* CAN
- 8. Rupert, Eva L CONNECTCUT
- 9. Fryszczyn, CatherineNJ
- 10. Wade, Kristina A PHIL
- 11. Caputo, ElizabethNJ
- 12. Kates, Megan E KS
- 13T Steyer, Meredith J N.ENG
- 13T Brosnan, Heather J OR
- 15. Mervosh, ElizabethWEST.PA
- 16. Orsi, Sabina E NJ
- 17. Clark, Lindsey R NJ

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## Military Fencers, Your Orders!

If you're interested in competing at the 1998 World Military Fencing Championships in Moscow in 1998 or the 1999 World Military Games (at a site yet to be determined), please contact Denise Chambers at the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO. Chambers may be reached at 719.333.4188 (DSN 333.4188) or by email at chambersdm.ah@usafa.af.mil. Write to her at USAFA Fencing, HQ USAFA/AHWC, 2169 Field House Dr., Suite 111, US Air Force Academy, CO 80840.

Selection will be based on USFA Division I, IA, II, III Championship and NAC results. In addition, military selection tournaments will be held once or twice a season in conjunction with a North American Cup and Summer Nationals. For more information, check out the website at <http://military.fencing.home.mindspring.com>

## Abe Balk – 1925-1997

Abe Balk of NYU, the only fencer ever to win two NCAA individual titles in the same year, died on March 7. He was 72.

It was at the 1947 NCAA championships in Chicago, the first postwar intercollegiate tournament, that Balk set his record by winning the foil individual and epee individual titles. Then, in combination with Robert K. Japlan, Al Sully, and Myron Matzkin, Balk captained NYU's first of a record 12 NCAA team championships.

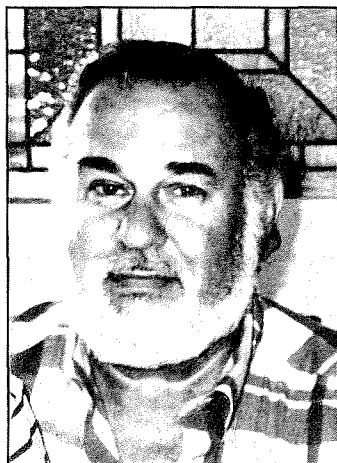
Balk's NCAA double triumph is unique, and will remain so, since the rules were changed in 1948 to preclude such "doubling up."

Balk began his fencing at Stuyvesant H.S. He started college at CCNY in 1942 as an engineering student, but transferred shortly after to NYU, where, with the encouragement of Julio M. Castello, he switched from foil to epee to fill a vacancy in the lineup.

During WWII he was an air cadet in the U.S. Army.

In the early 1950's, Balk became one of the first Volkswagen representatives in North America, when he opened a dealership in the Bronx. After 20 years he sold the dealership and began a billing service for doctors and dentists.

BY JEFFREY TISHMAN



## Two Coaching Positions Available

Culver Academies, a private boarding school in Indiana for students in grades 9-12, is seeking an additional coach for its varsity/junior fencing program. Other supervisory duties may be required as well. Applicants should send a cover letter and resume to:

Kathy Lintner  
Principal, Culver Academies  
1300 Academy Road, #156  
Culver, IN 46511-1291

Redlands Fencing Center of Tulsa is seeking a fencing coach. Redlands has a permanent location in a well known Tulsa shopping center with good exposure in a high traffic area. RFC has nearly ten years of successful experience operating the Oklahoma City Center; all this experience and the Redlands Program will be yours to draw upon. Interested coaches should send a letter and resume to:

Redlands Fencing Center  
3627 NW 23rd St.  
Oklahoma City, OK 73107

## Tanner City FC

For the twenty-third consecutive year the Tanner City fencing club held its informal outdoor fencing at the home of Aaron J. Bell, 52 Pickwick RD., Marblehead, Massachusetts, every Wednesday evening during July and August. There is an electric fencing strip and two other fencing areas. In addition there is fencing around the heated in ground pool in which most fencers swim after fencing. Spouses, friends and children are welcome. There are no fees and refreshments are served, courtesy of TCFC. A wonderful time is had by all. Over the years there have been visitors from every state of the union and most foreign countries. Joe Pechinsky, our beloved coach, presides and teaches without charge. We are looking forward to next summer and our twenty-fourth year.

## Swords at Sea

If you love to fence you can usually find a local club, school or college that will bring similarly minded individuals together to allow you to do your thing. Now Travel Network of Livingston NJ has gone one step further. They put together a fencing cruise with Steve Mormando and Peter Westbrook as cadre.

*Below, some of the participants in Swords at Sea gather with Olympians Steve Mormando and Peter Westbrook.*







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On August 24th "Swords at Sea 1," sailed from New York on Dolphin Cruise Lines' Ocean Breeze. The five-day cruise with stops in Newport, Rhode Island; Portland, Maine; and Halifax, Nova Scotia included two fencing clinics and three fencing sessions. Evening events included two fencing films and a presentation by Peter Westbrook reviewing his recently published book "Harnessing Anger." Besides the fencers who sailed with us, the fencing sessions were opened to all passengers.

All fencing sessions were scheduled for times when the ship was at sea, which enabled everyone to do all the sightseeing they wanted when we were in port. At the request of the ship's captain, Peter and Steve held a fencing demonstration one evening in a theater setting for all passengers. As part of the presentation several passengers were suited up and fenced a bout. In one bout a passenger was matched against a member of the ship's crew. The audience went wild and rooted for their favorite.

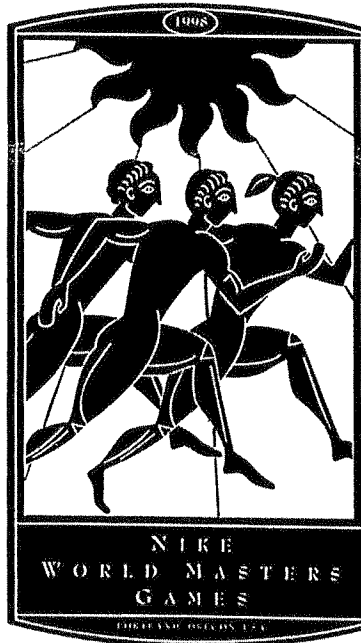
The fencing venue for the first session took place in a open area on one of the decks then we located the 15,000 square foot sun deck in the bow of the ship and the fun really began. With a bright sky, a light breeze and an unobstructed view of the sea, the venue was just perfect. Modern ships are so large and have excellent stabilizers so that there was very little pitch or roll.

From a fencing standpoint, Peter Westbrook, a six-time Olympian, and Steve Mormando, a three-time Olympian, were the focal

point of the trip. However, a cruise offers many different activities, and the best part turned out to be the evening Karaoke sessions. Peter's wife Susann held everyone captive with her magnificent voice. She sang many songs to standing ovations.

While we started the journey a little apprehensive whether a fencing cruise could be successful, in the end, the event was everything we had hoped it would be. We were able to provide a meaningful vacation and fencing experience to all fencers, both beginner and advanced alike. Steve summed up his feelings this way "It doesn't get any better than this," and Peter, who had never sailed before was so excited that he can't wait to go cruising again.

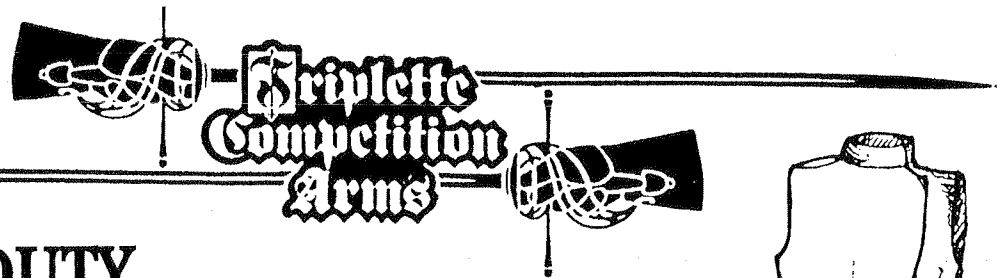
Next year Travel Network is planning Swords At Sea 2, from New York to Bermuda.



## 1998 NIKE World Masters Games

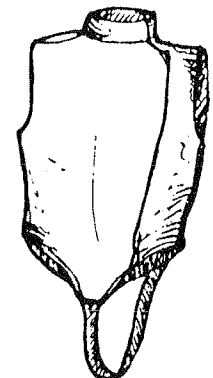
Portland, Oregon will host the 4th World Masters Games August 9 - 22. Held every four years, the last Games in Brisbane, Australia attracted more than 24,000 participants. Twenty-five sports

will be featured, from track and field to swimming to windsurfing and, of course, fencing. All Veteran members of the USFA are eligible to compete. Information can be obtained from the National Office and from the Veteran Fencers Quarterly.



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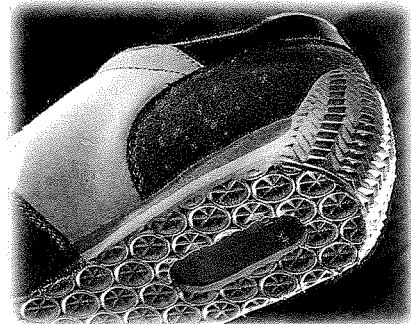
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